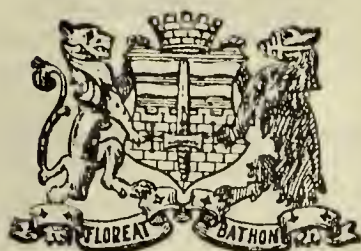


CITY OF BATH



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

PRINCIPAL

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

AND OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

(A. Tyler, M.B.E., F.R.S.I., F.S.I.A., M.R.S.A.)

FOR THE YEAR

1955

B. A. Astley Weston, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and Principal School Medical Officer

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CITY OF BATH.

December, 1955

Mayor : Councillor A. N. DIX.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Mrs. Councillor E. M. WILLIAMS.

The Mayor ; Aldermen J. W. Andrews, W. Barrett.

Councillors :—A. L. Bird, R. P. Campbell, S. D. Chappell,
J. A. H. N. Coulston, C. E. S. Dodd, K. J. Gray, Miss A. M. Hicks,
T. Jones, H. Mallory, Mrs. H. E. Miles, E. W. A. Mortimer,
L. St. V. Powell, R. H. Purdie, W. H. Rossiter, S. A. Smith.

Co-opted Members :—

Mr. R. Brain,	Dr. K. Caddick,	Mr. T. J. Cornish,
Dr. W. B. S. Crawford,	Miss K. M. Ealand,	Miss D. Harper,
Mrs. E. Millen,	Mr. W. E. Sheppard,	Mr. E. W. Smith,
Mrs. J. Wesley Whimster.		

Sub-Committees :—

HEALTH SERVICES :

Alderman W. Barrett.

Councillors :—R. P. Campbell, J. A. H. N. Coulston, C. E. S. Dodd,
T. Jones, R. H. Purdie S. A. Smith, Mrs. E. M. Williams.
Mr. R. Brain, Dr. K. Caddick, Dr. W. B. S. Crawford,
Miss K. M. Ealand, Miss D. Harper, Mrs. E. Millen,
Mr. W. E. Sheppard.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES :

Alderman W. Barrett.

Councillors :—The Mayor ; K. J. Gray, T. Jones, Mrs. H. E. Miles,
L. St. V. Powell, W. H. Rossiter, Mrs. E. M. Williams.
Dr. K. Caddick, Mr. T. J. Cornish, Mr. E. W. Smith,
Mrs. J. Wesley Whimster.

SANITARY AND GENERAL PURPOSES :

Aldermen J. W. Andrews, W. Barrett.

Councillors :—A. L. Bird, S. D. Chappell, J. A. H. N. Coulston,
Miss A. M. Hicks, T. Jones, H. Mallory, Mrs. H. E. Miles,
E. W. A. Mortimer, L. St. V. Powell, Mrs. E. M. Williams.
Mr. R. Brain.

SPECIAL SUB-COMMITTEE *re* HEALTH CENTRES :

Alderman W. Barrett.

Councillors :—T. Jones, S. A. Smith, Mrs. E. M. Williams.
Mr. T. J. Cornish, Dr. W. B. S. Crawford.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Alderman S. DAY.

The Mayor ; Aldermen S. J. Amblin, J. W. Andrews.

Councillors :—

A. L. Bird, R. P. Campbell, Mrs. A. M. Fitzjohn, M. L. Giles,
K. J. Gray, H. S. Howard, A. C. Knight, Mrs. G. Maw,
E. W. A. Mortimer L. St. V. Powell, A. E. Whitcher.

Co-opted Members :—

Mrs. F. E. Coltart

Mrs. W. J. Hanna

STAFF. December, 1955.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer.

B. A. Astley Weston, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Principal School Medical Officer.

N. Newman, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers :

Irene M. Leach, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

Helen M. H. Mack, M.B., Ch.B.

City Analyst : G. V. James, M.B.E., M.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.I.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

A. Tyler, M.B.E., F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A., M.R.S.A. (Scot.).

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :

G. W. Dhenin, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

District Sanitary Inspectors :

R. W. L. Read, D.P.A., M.S.I.A.

R. J. Pendlebury, D.P.A., M.S.I.A.

D. G. I. Smith, D.P.A., M.S.I.A.

R.E. Adams, M.S.I.A.

R. C. Decent, M.S.I.A. (from 18.7.55).

Rodent Officer : R. E. Hanham.

Senior Health Visitor :

Miss N. M. Hill, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.,

Sister Tutor's Cert.

Health Visitors (and School Nurses) :

Mrs. G. Chinnery, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss P. Silby, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss B. J. Macquillan, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss D. Milsom, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss S. E. Jones, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss D. A. Peadon, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss M. E. Bodys, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss E. J. Osborne, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor :

Miss J. E. Bailey, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert., T.A. (Cert.)

Mental Health Officers :

R. L. Reddish, Dip.Soc.Sc., R.M.N.

J. G. McLeod, S.R.N., R.M.N.

Psychiatric Social Worker :

Miss M. Phillips

Supervisor, Occupation Centre :

Mrs. D. Denyer.

Assistants, Occupation Centre :

Mrs. F. E. Tavender

Miss W. M. Piper

Matron, Riverside Day Nursery :

Mrs. H. Hunt, S R.N.

Clerks :

C. J. Taylor, D.P.A.,

Chief Clerk.

A. Ashman

Miss M. Perkins

B. Morgan

Miss R. M. Case

R. G. Lavis, D.P.A.

J. Brann

Mrs. L. Ward

Mrs. H. M. Welch

T. Hemmings

(from 4.4.55)

Miss B. White

Mrs. D. Corless

R. F. Cowlin

Miss J. M. Double

Miss B. Barber

(from 1.9.55)

Superintendent of Council Midwives and Home Nurses :

Miss A. Cook, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Deputy Superintendent :

Miss E. M. Vigar, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Council Midwives :

Mrs. M. E. Harris, S.C.M., Miss J. A. Young, S.C.M.,

Miss R. M. Purnell, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Home Help Organiser :

Mrs. E. M. Reeves

The Staff of the School Health Department is given separately (page 88)

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, THE ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE CITY OF BATH.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year 1955 as Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer, together with the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. For convenience these reports are given in one volume. As future policy must to a great extent be based on past experience, the statistical information contained in these reports should be of value to members of the City Council as giving an account of administrative provisions, the staffing arrangements, and the results obtained as shown by figures.

With the passage of time, the increase of scientific knowledge, and the advent of the National Health Service Act, the work of the Health Department has changed considerably. Children are healthier, and the majority are well cared for; infant and school clinics no longer deal with large numbers of ailments due to malnutrition and dirt; and the emphasis is now principally on their mental health and development. Many infectious illnesses are now under control, even tuberculosis shows signs of decline. The decline in maternal and infant mortality demonstrates the benefit which has been given to the beginnings of life by a combination of clinical knowledge with administrative provision.

The problems which now stand out most prominently are the mental health of children and young adults, the rehabilitation of the handicapped, the care of the aged and infirm, and the proper housing of the people. These are matters which occupy a large part of the time of all members of the staff. The approach to these problems is made from the point of view of prevention, and to this end, education in healthy living is the principal weapon.

All members of the staff of the Health Department in each section, both technical and clerical, have worked together with enthusiasm and interest, and have received the greatest co-operation from other Corporation Departments, particularly the Children's Department. Co-operation with other branches of the Health Service in Bath is most cordial, and there is close personal contact with the staff of the Hospital Management Committee and of the Executive Council. The Medical Officer is a member of the Bath Hospital Management Committee, while the Deputy Medical Officer is a member of the Local Medical Committee of the Executive Council. Assistant Medical Officers, whose main work is among children, attend the Paediatric Sessions at the Manor Hospital each week. In the mental health field the joint appointment by the Mendip Hospital Management Committee and the City Council of a Psychiatric Social Worker proves to be most satisfactory. In maternity work it is helpful that the Medical Officer is a member of the Clinical Area Maternity Advisory Committee.

The Health Department has had the greatest possible assistance and valuable advice from Dr. Mann of the Public Health Laboratory. The bacteriological examination of samples of food, water and of pathological

material is essential and requires a great deal of work of a highly skilled nature. We are most fortunate in having this laboratory in the City.

I wish also to draw attention to the great help given in the prevention of tuberculosis by the Radiological Department at the Manor Hospital, and to thank Mr. Gay in particular for his readiness to undertake, at short notice, the examination of large batches of contacts.

We are also indebted to Dr. Kelly, the Senior Administrative Medical Officer of the Regional Hospital Board and to Dr. Westwater. The quarterly conferences with Dr. Kelly and other Medical Officers of Health of the northern part of the Region are most helpful. On the same Regional level we have had the greatest assistance from the Mass Radiography Unit, for which we are most grateful.

I wish also to acknowledge the courteous and ready help given by Medical Officers of the Ministry of Health, particularly Sir Selwyn Selwyn Clarke and Dr. R. Elliott, who on many occasions have given guidance and information.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

B. A. ASTLEY WESTON,
*Medical Officer of Health and
 Principal School Medical Officer.*

Bath, August, 1956.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

City and County Borough of Bath.

Health Resort and Chief Town of Somerset.

Area of the Borough, 6277 Statute acres.

Situation—Latitude 51° 23' N., Longitude 2° 21' W.

Elevation—Varies from 50 feet above sea level on the lower banks of the Bath Avon to about 550 feet on the South and 700 feet on the North.

Mean elevation—269 feet above sea level.

Geological Formation—Oolitic Clays, Limestones and Sands; Lias and Gravel.

Water—Constant service of moderately hard spring water. Corporation Reservoirs have a total capacity of 61,305,000 gallons. Average daily consumption, 1955, 34.15 gallons per head; 1950-54 32.07 gallons.

Sewage disposal almost exclusively by water carriage. Treated at Saltford.

House refuse removed by the Sanitary Authority.

Population 79,294 (1951 Census).

Number of inhabited houses, Census 1951, 21,460 (*i.e.*, structurally separate dwellings occupied by private families). Estimate for 1955, 23,050.

	Years	...	1955.	1954.	Mean of 1951-55.	Mean of 1946-50.
Population { Birth, Marriage and ...	...	...				
Death rates ...	...	...	79,600	79,400	79,520	76,820
Rateable Value in March, 1956	...	£	712,580	700,471	692,970	652,914
Rates—Total per £	...	...	23/4	22/4	22/1	18/4
One penny General Rate produced	...	£	2,800	2,798	2,761	2,613
Total net indebtedness March, 1956...	...	£	6,873,234	6,321,858	5,778,091	3,258,818
Ditto per head of Population	...	£	86-7-0	79-12-5	72-15-6	42-15-1
MARRIAGES—Number Registered	...	...	605	557	601	662
Rate per 1000 population. Bath	...	...	15'2	14'0	15'1	17'2
Ditto. England and Wales	...	...	16'1	15'4	15'9	17'6
BIRTHS—Number	...	Bath	1068	1043	1096	1285
Rate per 1000 population	...	"	13'4	13'1	13'8	16'8
Ditto. England and Wales	...	...	15'0	15'2	15'3	18'0
Illegitimate births per 1000 infants born	...	Bath	52	49	49	64
DEATHS—Number—Civilian Bath residents	...	...	998	972	1033	1039
Net rate per 1000 population, Bath	...	...	12'5	12'2	13'0	13'5
Standardized rate for age and sex	...	"	9'8	9'5	10'5	11'2
England and Wales, Crude Death-rate	...	...	11'7	11'3	11'6	11'5
INFANT MORTALITY—	...	Bath	20'6	21'1	22'2	32
England and Wales	...	...	24'9	25'5	27'0	36
Illegitimate Infants	...	Bath	—	19'6	19'1	45
PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH—	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	7	10	12	26
"Other" Tuberculosis	...	...	1	2	1	4
Influenza	...	...	8	2	12	8

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS--Continued

Years ...				1955	1954	Mean of 1951-55	Mean of 1946-50
Pneumonia	...	...	...	48	80	56	45
Bronchitis	...	...	...	41	40	40	24
Cancer	...	...	...	191	165	176	158
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc., Heart Disease & other Circulatory diseases				525	503	543	556
Nephritis	...	...	...	7	17	16	21
Violence	...	...	...	42	46	44	38
DEATH RATES per 1000 population from—							
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.00	0.13	0.15	0.34
"Other" Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.05
Influenza	...	...	...	0.10	0.03	0.15	0.10
Pneumonia	...	...	...	0.60	1.01	0.70	0.59
Bronchitis	...	...	...	0.52	0.50	0.51	0.31
Cancer	...	...	...	2.40	2.08	2.24	2.06
DEATHS at various age periods—							
Under 1 year	...	...	...	22	22	25	42
1 to 5 years	...	...	...	2	2	5	7
Between 5 and 60 years	...	...	...	147	155	161	186
Over 60 years	...	...	...	827	793	843	804
INFECTIOUS DISEASE—Cases notified							
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	1	6
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	45	46	66	50
Dysentery	...	...	...	172	22	54	3
Erysipelas	...	...	...	6	5	9	12
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	—	—	1	2
Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	4	7	16	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	15	8	7	6
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	53	42	58	77
"Other" Tuberculosis	...	...	...	5	10	8	10
<i>See also pages 51 and 83</i>							
INFECTIOUS DISEASE Attack rates per 1000 population—							
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.08
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	0.57	0.58	0.83	0.65
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0.07	0.06	0.11	0.15
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	0.19	0.10	0.09	0.07
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.67	0.53	0.74	1.00
"Other" Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.07	0.13	0.10	0.13

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the City of Bath for the Year 1955.

STATISTICS.

Population. The Registrar-General's estimate of the 1955 mid-year population was 79,600, an increase of 200 compared with 1954. (1951 Census, 79,294).

Births and Infant Mortality. There were 1,068 births in 1955; 25 more than last year. The rate per thousand population for 1955 was 13.4 compared with 13.1 for last year, while the rate for England and Wales was 15.0.

The Infant Mortality rate was 20.6 per 1,000 live births compared with 21.1 in 1954, and an average of 24 for the 5 years, 1949-53. The 1955 figure for the Country as a whole was 24.9 which was the lowest on record.

The number of illegitimate births was 56, as compared with 51, 50 and 45 for the three previous years.

The Infant Mortality rate of 20.6 remains at the low level experienced for some years. Twenty years ago it was 45 per thousand live births. During 1955, of the 22 infants who died in the first year of life, 14 were under four weeks of age, giving a neo-natal mortality rate (*i.e.* deaths under 4 weeks of age) of 13.1.

Maternal Mortality. There were no maternal deaths in Bath during the year. The average of 5 years, 1950-54 for Bath was 1.27, and for England and Wales, 0.77.

Marriages. The number registered as taking place in Bath, not necessarily of Bath people, was 605, as compared with 557 in 1954. The marriage rate per thousand population was 15.2 and for England and Wales, 16.1.

Deaths. The net death rate for the City for 1955 was 12.5 per 1,000 population, a little higher than last year's rate of 12.2. The "standardised" death rate was 9.8 per 1,000 population, compared with 11.7 for England and Wales. The average "standardised" death rate for the ten year period 1944-53 for Bath was 11.1.

To enable the death rate for Bath to be compared with other areas, and with the country as a whole, what is called a "correcting factor" is applied to the net death rate, and when this rate is multiplied by the "correcting factor" the result is known as the standardised death rate. This year the "correcting factor" was 0.78.

Details of the principal causes of death, and the incidence in various age groups, are given in the Summary (pages 85 and 86), but it should be noted that the figures given are compiled from local records, and may not agree precisely with those prepared by the Registrar-General.

The following are extracts from the vital statistics for Bath.

		Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	1012	505	507	} Birth Rate, 13.4
	Illegitimate	56	30	26	
Stillbirths	....	35	20	15	Rate per 1,000
					total births, 31.7
Deaths	....	998	414	584	Death-rate, 9.8
					(standardised)

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal sepsis ...	—	0.00
Other puerperal causes	—	0.00

Death-rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births :—

Legitimate, 20.6; Illegitimate, 0.00; Total, 20.6

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	191
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	—	—

The Stillbirth rate of 31.7 shows an increase over last year's figure of 26.0, and although it is difficult to draw any conclusion from the small numbers involved, the figures for Bath appear to be somewhat above the national average, which was 23.1 for 1955.

(For number of births, birth rates, infant mortality and maternal mortality see pages 9 and 10).

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

No material changes took place during the year in the administrative arrangements indicated in my Report for the year 1952. The Local Authority's arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board to provide relief medical staff at the City Isolation Hospital has ceased, and the Board now provides the necessary medical staff.

HEALTH CENTRES.

No action was taken with regard to Health Centres during the year,

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Child Welfare. For the purposes of child welfare, the City is divided into eight districts, in each of which a Health Visitor works, combining her duties with that of School Nurse. There are seven child welfare clinics, at which a total of eight sessions are held weekly, with an Assistant Medical Officer and Health Visitor in attendance. During the year a new clinic was built on the Twerton Housing Estate, adjoining the Primary School, and this was formally opened by Dr. Rachel Elliott of the Ministry of Health on 6th October, 1955. It is hoped that as conditions permit, similar clinics will be constructed elsewhere to replace those at present held in rather inadequate premises.

In addition to the Health Department staff, voluntary helpers assist at each of the clinics, and their services are greatly appreciated.

The Health Visitor sees all those who attend, and each child on the register is seen quarterly by the Medical Officer and as often as necessary between. Educative literature is available, talks are given on various topics, children are weighed, and every effort is made to make the clinic a place where real education in child health can be given.

Children found to need treatment are referred to their Family Doctor, and if Specialist advice is necessary they are sent to the Paediatric Clinics held at the Royal United Hospital or St. Martin's Hospital.

Health lectures are given on invitation to a wide variety of Women's Clubs, etc., by the Health Visitors and Medical Officers.

In addition to facilities for the sale of proprietary milk and welfare foods, arrangements have been made for some years for the distribution of National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil and Orange Juice at the various Infant Clinics. These arrangements continued with the transfer of responsibility for their distribution from the Ministry of Food to Local Health Authorities.

The following is a summary of the "take up" of the Ministry's welfare foods during 1955:—

National Dried			
Milk	Cod Liver Oil	Orange Juice	Vitamin Tablets
(Tins)	(Bottles)	(Bottles)	(Packets)
30,765	12,187	79,233	4,570

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

For days and times see page 38. Figures for 1955 are as follows:—

ATTENDANCES.

Clinic	Sessions	Seen by Doctor	Average	Not seen by Doctor	Average
Blue Coat House ...	99	1761	17.8	2086	21.0
Walcot ...	51	800	15.7	1209	23.7
Oldfield Park ...	51	679	13.3	917	18.0
Southdown ...	48	511	10.6	443	9.2
Odd Down ...	48	637	13.3	574	12.0
Weston ...	48	347	7.2	437	9.1
Twerton	50	404	8.0	269	5.4
Total ...	395	5139	13.0	5935	15.0

(In 1954 there were 5,720 consultations and 6,281 other attendances giving an average of 14.4 and 15.8 respectively).

Expectant and Nursing Mothers. Two Ante-natal clinics are held each week, as well as a monthly post-natal clinic, at the Rivers Street District Nurses' Home, staffed by one of the Local Authority's Medical Officers, and the Superintendent Midwife. The Domiciliary midwives attend the clinics, while the Maternity Sister from the Royal United Hospital attends when patients booked for that Hospital are seen. Case papers relating to patients to be confined in hospital are sent to the hospital at the time of confinement. Patients booked by General Practitioners are seen, and interim examinations are carried out for those mothers who have booked a bed for their confinement at St. Martin's Hospital. This Hospital has its own ante-natal clinic conducted by a Specialist.

Arrangements are made through the St. Martin's Pathological Laboratory for blood-testing and other examinations, and each mother is offered X-ray examination of the lungs. During 1955, 176 mothers were X-rayed. All information is available to the general practitioner if required.

Ante-Natal Clinics. Figures in brackets are those for 1954.

				Rivers Street
Number of Sessions held	...	...	...	96 (102)
Number of new patients	...	...	...	160 (178)
Total attendances	...	...	...	1067 (1277)
Average per session	...	...	...	11 (13)
Ante-natal home visits by City Midwives	...	...	...	1243 (1295)

Instruction in mothercraft is given at the clinics, but in addition to this, a general invitation is given to mothers to attend special courses of lectures conducted by Dr. Irene Leach, Medical Officer, and Miss S. Jones, one of our Health Visitors. Several of these courses were held at the Health Department during the year, and 280 mothers attended. Fathers are invited to certain of the lectures, and a number avail themselves of this opportunity.

In conjunction with the Ante-natal clinics, a Relaxation Clinic is held under the direction of a trained physiotherapist, and during the year expectant mothers made 1,387 attendances at 161 sessions (1954 figures, 1,385 attendances and 170 sessions).

The instruction given is of value in that expectant mothers obtain a better understanding of the whole process of pregnancy and confinement, and are better able to co-operate with the doctor or midwife attending. A valuable feature is that many of the groundless fears and superstitions associated with bad midwifery are dispelled.

Where necessary patients may be referred for Specialist advice to either the Ante-natal Clinic at St. Martin's Hospital or the Gynaecological Clinic at the Royal United Hospital.

Approved Maternity Outfits are available through the Local Authority Ante-natal Clinic for each domiciliary confinement.

The Health Visitors are in close touch with the Maternity Wards of the hospitals, and periodic visits are made to mothers before discharge. Where necessary the Health Visitors visit expectant mothers in their own homes to ensure that instructions given by the Hospital are carried out.

The booking of Hospital beds for confinement is done through the Maternity Department of the Health Office.

Unmarried mothers may and do use all these facilities without distinction. The Moral Welfare Worker of the Bath and Keynsham Moral Welfare Association is in touch with the Health Department and grants are made by the City Council to those needing special care towards the cost of maintenance in Mother and Baby Homes. Normally the period covered by the grant is six weeks before the confinement and a similar period after the birth of the baby in order that the mother may be given moral training, and time to consider her own future and that of the child. During 1955 grants of up to £20 per case were made to various Homes for the care and training of nine unmarried mothers.

A post-natal Clinic is held once a month under the same organisation as is described above for ante-natal clinics. Specialist advice, and if necessary treatment, is secured by reference to the Hospital Gynaecological Clinic. 74 new patients attended. (67 patients in 1954)

Care of Premature Infants. It has not been considered necessary to make special domiciliary provision for premature infants, as both general hospitals are adequately

equipped. Distances to either hospital are short, and heated ambulances are always available if admission to hospital is necessary. Over 87% of the babies born this year to Bath residents took place in hospital. Of 7 premature cases nursed entirely at home all survived 28 days.

Dental Care. So far as expectant mothers are concerned it is found that the provision for examination and treatment by private dentists is preferred and used. The majority of young expectant mothers have excellent mouths and are dental conscious for cosmetic reasons probably, and possibly also because of the School Dental Service. There remains a minority who are careless of their teeth and when referred to the Dental Department are found to be in need of much treatment. In these cases a number of extractions are required to clean the mouth, and a denture is usually necessary. The only way to prevent this neglect is by an intensification of dental education in the Child Welfare Clinics. Regular visits by a Dental Officer to Ante-Natal and Child Clinics for inspection and education have been tried and found to be ineffective and wasteful of time, and reliance is therefore placed on dental education by Health Visitors and Midwives.

The Dental Clinic has its own X-ray apparatus, and dentures are made by arrangement with a private technician.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during 1955:—

(a) Numbers provided with dental care:

	Examined	Needing treatment	Treated	Treatment completed
Expectant and Nursing mothers	43	41	41	21
Children under five	87	79	78	78

(b) Forms of dental treatment provided:

	Scalings and Gum Treatment	Fillings	Silver Nitrate treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Dentures provided		Radiographs
							Full Upper or Lower	Partial Upper or Lower	
Expectant and Nursing mothers	23	40	1	—	83	21	17	6	—
Children under five	22	47	5	—	84	51	—	—	3

Orthopædic Treatment. By arrangement with the Bath Hospital Management Committee regular sessions are held by the Orthopædic Surgeon in the Health Department, with weekly sessions by the After-Care Sister for massage and treatment recommended by the Surgeon. Patients are referred for Ultra-Violet Ray or Hot Pool treatments to the City Bathing Establishment. During the year, 218 children under school age, including 93 new cases made 791 attendances to the Surgeon's and After-Care Sister's Clinics. 13 children made 41 attendances at Massage Clinics.

Eye Clinic. 92 children under school age made 189 attendances at the Eye Clinic held at the Bath Eye Infirmary through the Bath H.M.C. 69 cases were referred for defective vision and squint, and 23 for other eye conditions.

Ear, Nose & Throat Clinic. 16 children under five years of age attended this clinic held at the Bath Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, and 10 tonsil and adenoid operations were performed.

"Birth Control" Clinic. A weekly evening clinic arranged by the Bath Branch of the Family Planning Association is held at the Local Authority's Infant Clinic at the Sawclose, where family planning advice is given by experienced medical and nursing staff. 544 patients were seen during the year, of whom 385 came from Bath, the others being referred from the surrounding County areas.

Day Nursery. The accommodation at the Riverside Day Nursery (55 places) was used fully during the year, and although the daily average attendance was reduced to 43, this was due to the number of children who were away because of measles during the summer months. There were 59 children on the register at the end of the year. There has been a constant waiting list of children for admission to the Nursery, but the available places have proved adequate to meet the various priority classes, without undue delay.

Priority is given (a) to children in homes where the mother is compelled to work because she is unmarried, or because of the death of the father or separation of the parents; (b) where home conditions are unhealthy or unsuitable; or (c) where the mother is in essential employment.

The Nursery is approved for student training, and at the end of the year, ten students were being trained for the National Nursery Examination. These students spend a proportion of their time in theoretical training at the Bath Technical College, and have practical training at the nursery.

Residential Nurseries. Residential Nursery provision is provided by the Children's Committee either in one of that Committee's homes for short stay cases, or by arrangement with the Church of England Children's Society at Saville House, Bath or at Sunnyside, Box, for long stay cases.

The Local Authority Medical Officers carry out the necessary medical examinations on admission or discharge, and periodically while the child is in the Children's Committee Homes. Treatment of any child is given by a general practitioner should it be necessary. General medical supervision of these Homes is given by regular visits by an Assistant Medical Officer.

Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948.

Two persons remained on the Register at the end of the year, although little use appears to be made of their services, and one private nursery was registered providing accommodation for 20 children.

Prevention of Break-up of Families

(Ministry of Health Circular 27/54)

There is very close collaboration between the Health Department and Children's Department in all matters concerning the care of deprived children and of problem families. The appointment of a Psychiatric Social Worker in 1954 has proved to be a great assistance, not only in dealing with cases where the mental state of a parent or a child has to be considered, but particularly in advising Health Visitors and Children's Visitors.

The Children's Officer has been appointed to act as convenor of the executive co-ordinating committee which meets as required to consider particular cases. At such meetings, which are entirely informal, each case is considered from the angle of the Children's Department, which is largely social; of the Health Visitor and School Health aspect, concerning health and education, and when necessary, Housing, Mental Health, and all too frequently that of the Probation Officer and N.S.P.C.C. Inspector.

It is always a principle on such occasions to make arrangements which will not involve the break-up of the family, by providing day time care of the children, either in a Day Nursery, or by the provision of Home Help in the child's own home. It is only in a small proportion of cases that a solution to the problem can be found in Home Help, in that the cost of a full day's care of the children is more than the parents can or will afford, or that the Home Help is needed most in the early morning, late evening or at week-ends, when the service is not normally operating, or in some cases that the mother is not prepared to leave her children to an unknown woman. There are also occasions when it would not be desirable to leave a Home Help in a home while the mother is away from home, because of the known character of the father.

During 1955, applications were made to the Children's Officer for the care of children as follows:—

Number of applications for children to be taken into care ...	159
Number of applications refused or not proceeded with	17
Number of cases where applicants made own arrangements with friends or relatives	21

Number of cases where parent used Home Help, Day Nursery, Voluntary Home, Private Foster Home, Hospital, etc....	2
Number of cases where children received into care :—	
For short term 	94
For long term 	22
Number of applications outstanding at 31st December, 1955	3
	—
Total	159

MIDWIFERY.

The Local Authority's Midwives work under the immediate supervision of the Superintendent of the District Nursing Association, who is also the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives. Three domiciliary midwives were employed throughout the year, and this number proved adequate to cope with the comparatively small number of home confinements. The establishment of the Health Department provides for five domiciliary midwives. Two midwives are resident near new housing areas, and one is resident in the District Nurses' Home.

During the year, three pupil midwives received part of their training on the district by arrangement with the West Wilts Hospital Management Committee. One of the midwives as well as the Deputy Superintendent hold the Teacher's Training Certificate.

One midwife attended a Refresher Course during the year.

Sets of gas and air apparatus are available, and two midwives are qualified in their use. The apparatus is demonstrated to the mothers attending the Local Authority's Ante-natal Clinics. Gas and air was used on 56 occasions at confinements attended by the Council's midwives, and Pethidine was administered on 62 occasions. A total of 1,243 home visits were made by the City Midwives in connection with the 125 confinements they attended. The latter figure shows a decline of 60 cases on the previous year.

General Practitioners are notified by post when one of their patients books a City Midwife for her confinement, and there is a simple summary card in the possession of the patient on which the important clinical details of the pregnancy may be entered by the General Practitioner or Midwife, so that each is kept informed. This procedure has been much appreciated by both. This personal summary card has been approved now by the S.W. Regional Hospital Board for use throughout the Bath Clinical Area.

During 1955, 49 Midwives notified their intention to practise in the City, of whom 38 were on the staff of the Hospital Management Committee, 1 was in a Maternity Nursing Home, 5 in private practice and 5 on the staff of the Local Authority. 7 Midwives did not conduct any cases in the City, 24 attended 30 or more cases each, and 11 less than 10 each.

The number of births (including stillbirths) attended by all midwives was 1,565. (Last year it was 1,580).

Altogether, a doctor was called in under the Rules of the Central Midwives Board on 18 occasions for various emergencies in connection with births and miscarriages.

The following table gives the place of confinement of the registered live births in Bath.

	Royal United & Forbes Fraser Hospitals	St. Martin's Hospital	Private Maternity Homes	Private Houses
Bath mothers	488	424	6	129
Non-residents ...	144	359	5	5
Total	632	783	11	134
Percentage—				
Bath mothers	47% (41%)	41% (40%)	6% (1%)	12% (18%)

(Figures for 1954 are shown in brackets)

The percentage of Bath mothers having their babies in hospital rose from 81% to almost 88%, while domiciliary confinements fell from 18% to 12%. The number of confinements in private maternity homes showed a further decline.

HEALTH VISITING

There are eight full-time Health Visitors each responsible for a district of the City. A Senior Health Visitor who does not work on a district is responsible for immediate administration giving particular attention to health education in the homes and elsewhere. Each Health Visitor acts also as a school nurse in the Infant and Junior Schools in her district, thus ensuring continuity of supervision of the children from birth to about 11 years of age.

Health Visitors are required increasingly to carry out enquiries other than those connected with mothers and young children. The following table shows that the nature of their work has changed during the preceding five years.

Visits made by Health Visitor/School Nurses

Year	To Children in their own homes		School Children*		Expectant Mothers	Other Visits
			At School	Follow-up in homes		
	Under 1	1-5				
1950	7339	8420	855	941	324	—
1951	7841	7824	1432	1509	185	222
1952	7417	7005	1606	1452	176	472
1953	7566	7585	1463	1163	452	504
1954	6894	6874	1409	1331	335	429
1955	7634	6990	1494	1514	309	262

(*figures include work of whole-time School Nurses)

The figures show the increased attention given to school children, and the great increase in visits grouped as "other visits," which are made necessary by enquiries in connection with housing, the supervision of female mentally defective persons, the care of the chronic sick and the aged, infectious disease, and special investigations on behalf of research enquiries. In addition to these routine field visits an increasing amount of clerical work is required of Health Visitors in recording visits and writing reports.

There has been steady progress in the appreciation of the help that can be given by Health Visitors to General Practitioners, Paediatric Consultants at the Hospitals, Almoners, etc. During the year 24 General Practitioners have asked for the help of a Visitor on 134 occasions for the following reasons:—Child care, 67; Care of aged, infirm and chronic sick, 13; Infectious diseases, 19; Housing problems, 4; Mental Health, 4; Ante-natal care, 2; General Problems, 25. Regular weekly consultations are made by certain health visitors with one group of General Practitioners.

In mentioning this co-operation with other branches of the Health Service, it should be noted that the two Assistant Medical Officers attend the Paediatric Clinic at the Manor Hospital, and are thus enabled to keep in touch with clinical medicine. It is also hoped that they may by their knowledge of the home and school environment of the patients be of assistance to the clinicians.

Each Health Visitor has been forced to consider carefully how she can use her time to the best advantage, and up to now it has been found advisable to reduce what may be unnecessary visiting to healthy children between 2 and 5 years living in good homes. There is however a limit below which visits to the pre-school children should not be reduced, and careful consideration must now be given administratively to the proper use of these highly trained nurses to the best advantage, by relieving them of some duties which could be carried out equally by people with less training.

Health Education. Health Visitors are conscious increasingly that their primary duty is education in healthy living. Their most valuable work in this direction is the routine visits to the homes, where every opportunity is taken of giving advice and information in an informal way. More formal methods are in constant use by means of posters, demonstrations, and talks to small groups of mothers at clinics, and to larger groups at special meetings of women's clubs, girl guides, etc. Special speakers have given lectures and demonstrations at Child Welfare Clinics on mental health, cookery, and accident prevention. A well attended Mothercraft class is held regularly at which expectant mothers (and at certain sessions, fathers also), are given instruction in child care by Dr. Leach and one of the Health Visitors.

HOME NURSING

The Bath District Nursing Association continues to provide this service, as agent for the Health Authority, which has taken over the buildings at 44/45 Rivers Street, and is responsible for the cost of the service. The Superintendent and Deputy are appointed by the Association, but the 8 full-time and 3 part-time nurses are appointed by the Local Authority. With the exception of one Enrolled Assistant Nurse, all nurses are State Registered.

The Superintendent and Deputy with one nurse and one midwife are resident at Rivers Street, and other nurses and midwives live in their own homes. There is daily personal contact between the Superintendent and nurses, while the Superintendent communicates as necessary with the Health Department either personally or by telephone.

During 1955 the nurses paid 29,115 visits to 1,534 patients. (During 1954 the numbers were 29,792 visits to 1,554 patients). There has thus been no change in the total volume of work. The figures which follow show the distribution of effort.

Type of Case	Number of Cases	Visits	Average No. visits per case
Patients over 65 years ...	917	18,766	20.5
Children	45	208	4.6
Cancer	78	1,576	20.2
Tuberculosis	45	1,437	31.9
To give injections	437	11,960	27.4
All patients	1,534	29,115	19.0

These figures suggest—(1) that there is little need in this City for special nursing provision for children. I hope chiefly because their health is good, though the fact that there is excellent provision for the nursing of children who are ill, in the local hospitals, must also be borne in mind; (2) that a large proportion of the Nurses' time is given to old people, many of whom are also included in the figures for cancer; (3) that the nursing of tuberculous patients in their own homes is an important part of the work, and that it may increase as modern treatment has made it possible to discharge patients from hospital much earlier; (4) that modern treatment by injection calls for increased nursing provision. The figures for injections only represent those visits which are for the purpose of injection alone. They do not include visits where an injection is only part of the nursing required, nor do they include visits to tuberculous patients who may be on treatment by injection.

The principal reasons for the injection visits are to give insulin

to diabetic patients who are unable to give their own injections, and to administer antibiotics to patients suffering from certain infections.

The Superintendent comments that injections of penicillin are not ordered so frequently now that the precautions necessary in its use are more fully appreciated, and possibly because preparations which can be given by mouth are more satisfactory. The nurses are equipped with the cartridge type of syringe for giving antibiotics, and this type of preparation is being prescribed by practitioners. There have been no cases of dermatitis among nurses.

The new syllabus of training for State Registered Nurses requires a course of four lectures by the Medical Officer of Health or a practising Health Visitor. During the year two such courses were given at the Royal United Hospital.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Protection is offered against Smallpox, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough either through the family doctor or at Infant Welfare Centres.

Parents are impressed with the need to protect their children by immunisation and vaccination, through personal contact by the Health Visitors at home or in the child welfare clinics; by Press and poster publicity in conjunction with national campaigns arranged by the Ministry of Health; and, in the case of diphtheria immunisation, by reminders in the form of birthday cards at one year of age. A record is kept of all unimmunised and un-vaccinated infants, and at quarterly intervals, when protection is overdue, their names and addresses are sent to the Family Doctor concerned to enlist his support. Letters stressing the need for renewed protection against diphtheria are sent to the parents of all children on the occasion of their first medical examination in school, and immunisation is often carried out in the school concerned at the end of a routine visit.

Diphtheria Immunisation. The number of children immunised for the first time fell somewhat from 1,133 in 1954 to 967 in 1955, but an increased number received reinforcing injections—747 as compared with 596 for the previous year.

The following table shows the state of immunisation as far as Bath children are concerned, at the end of 1955:—

	No. Immunised	Estimated Child Population
Under 1 year	173	1,070
1 to 4 years	2,839	4,430
5 to 14 years	8,442	10,500
	11,454	16,000

Of the total number of children who have been immunised against diphtheria, 4,368 received their injections more than five years ago, and their immunity against the disease must be regarded as doubtful. Thus although 71.6% of the child population in Bath have

been dealt with at some time or other, only 44.3% were immunised or had re-inforcing injections during the past five years. About 30% of our children remain unprotected despite the efforts of persuasion both nationally and locally.

For the second year in succession, no cases of diphtheria were notified in Bath, and the number of cases notified during 1955 in England and Wales fell to 161. Nevertheless parents must be urged continually to have their children immunised if the present state of affairs is to be maintained. Every provision for immunisation is available, either through the family doctor or the Local Authority Clinics and parents who fail to have their children protected, do so, in the majority of cases, because they either fail to realise the danger, or are too inert to make use of the facilities. It is too late and unwise to immunise children during an epidemic, therefore they should be protected now while there is no evidence of the organism in the community.

Vaccination. Vaccination is no longer compulsory, but every effort is still made to persuade mothers to have their children vaccinated, either at the Infant Welfare Clinics or by the family doctor.

During 1955, 514 persons received primary vaccination including 424 under one year, and there were 140 re-vaccinations. (520 and 219 in 1954).

The number of children born in the area in the 12 months ended 30th June, 1955 was approximately 1,061 of whom only 424 were vaccinated during 1955, or 40%. Bath's percentage is somewhat above the National average, but the speed of modern air travel makes it easily possible for acute cases of smallpox to develop in this Country, and the poorly protected state of the community is then likely to be dangerous.

While it is true that (unlike immunisation against diphtheria) vaccination can protect against or modify smallpox if done within a few days of exposure to infection, vaccination for the first time during adult life can cause far more disturbance to health than it does during infancy. It is therefore a wise precaution to have infants vaccinated early in life.

B.C.G. Vaccination. See page 29.

Whooping Cough Immunisation. Many children now receive immunisation against whooping cough in combination with diphtheria immunisation. In certain cases separate antigens are used. During 1955, 660 children were protected by one or other of these methods.

PROVISION OF AMBULANCE SERVICES.

Ambulance Service. The City Fire and Ambulance Services are combined under the immediate control of the Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade. Reference is made to the Medical Officer of Health when a medical decision is required. By arrangement with the Counties of Somerset and Gloucester certain parts of those counties surrounding the City are also served.

The Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade and Ambulance Service observes—

“The number of vehicles remain unchanged with 7 ambulances and 3 sitting case cars. One ambulance was replaced in 1955. The new ambulance was a four berth ambulance making the second four berth ambulance in the fleet.

During the year the number of patients carried was slightly less than 1954. The trend in the five years 1950-54 was to increase, and this is the first year that the upward trend has ceased. The reduction was mainly in the number of sitting case car patients. It is hoped that 1954 will have proved to be the peak year and that the demand will now remain fairly stable, but only the continued co-operation of the Hospital staffs in ensuring that transport is granted only in case of necessity on medical grounds will ensure a stable demand.

The continued use of rail transport for long distance journeys and radio control of the ambulances within the immediate vicinity of the City has kept the miles per patient figure low.

The miles per patient figures for 1955 were:—

Ambulance	...	5.4 miles per patient
Sitting Case Cars	...	3.9 miles per patient

The service is greatly indebted to its voluntary escorts who have accompanied stretcher cases on rail journeys. These escorts have proved invaluable and have undertaken some most exacting tasks. The hospital car service drivers have also given magnificent service, and have at all times filled the gap with their own cars when vehicles of the City service have not been available. As in past years we have received the most courteous treatment from the staff of British Railways. The departure stations used by our service are Bath Spa, Green Park, Bath and Temple Meads, Bristol, at each of which we have had the maximum assistance from the staffs, and I am happy to report that our escorts record that they have had the same assistance at their destination railway stations.”

TABLE OF AMBULANCE JOURNEYS, MILEAGE, ETC.
1955 compared with previous years

		(1) Total Journeys	(2) Patients carried	(3) Accidents (included in 1)	(4) Total Mileage
City Ambulances and Cars	1950	14,882	15,697	1,021	127,775
	1951	21,898	22,938	977	138,489
	1952	23,066	24,197	1,044	140,590
	1953	25,558	26,640	1,150	140,130
	1954	28,014	29,032	1,188	130,759
	1955	23,644	27,765	1,287	133,741
St. John & B.R.C.S. Ambulances	1950	5	6	—	247
	1951	31	43	—	759
	1952	10	16	—	204
	1953	—	—	—	—
	1954	—	—	—	—
	1955	—	—	—	—
Hospital Car Service	1950	4,139	4,523	—	45,144
	1951	542	862	—	9,833
	1952	356	717	—	8,167
	1953	244	501	—	7,780
	1954	492	883	—	10,089
	1955	562	948	—	13,136

DOMESTIC HELP

The Domestic Help Service has grown into a most valuable part of the National Health Service and demands continue to increase year by year. The Service commenced in Bath in 1949 and during that year 140 separate households were given assistance, since when the number has risen steadily to a total of 450 households helped in 1955. Of this number, no less than 296 represented households where there was chronic sickness, including aged and infirm persons, and it is in this direction that the main demand for the services of home helps falls.

The increasing number of old people in our population is a national problem, but it is even more acute in Bath where the proportion of elderly is somewhat higher than the average for the country as a whole. With the demands upon hospital and hostel accommodation it is obvious that the need for the services of the home help is going to increase year by year, and by delaying and even preventing the need for institutional accommodation at much greater expense to the community, this service is performing a most important function. Similarly, it is possible for elderly patients to be discharged from hospital to home earlier than would otherwise be possible because the domiciliary services of the local authority are available.

The charge for the services of the home help is made in accordance with a scale approved by the City Council, but because the majority of the people assisted are in receipt of pensions or National Assistance, the service is provided without charge. The amount recovered by way of charges represents little more than 7% of the total cost of the service.

Whenever help is requested, medical confirmation of the need is obtained, and each application is approved by the Medical Officer. Where help is required for an extended period, the case is reviewed by the Organiser. In many cases of chronic sickness of course, the help continues for very long periods. These cases become very dependent upon the individual home help, and the latter show many acts of kindly interest to those they serve outside the strict interpretation of their duties. At the end of the year 9 full-time and 40 part-time home helps were employed by the authority. One full-time home help is engaged solely in attending to the needs of old people living in the Old Peoples' Bungalows on the Twerton Housing Estate.

The home helps meet together regularly, thus giving an opportunity for the Organiser to discuss current problems with a general interchange of helpful information.

During 1955, 450 individual households were helped, an increase of 61 over the previous year. 10 homes needed assistance because of tuberculosis, 29 during the lying-in period and 411 because of acute or chronic illness, young children or aged persons in the home.

Night Orderlies. There were no requests for Night Orderlies during the year. This service is therefore in abeyance.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE. TUBERCULOSIS.

Administration.

The Health Services Sub-Committee deals with all matters concerning Tuberculosis, acting through the Medical Officer of Health. A full-time Health Visitor is employed, and by arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board one of the Chest Physicians gives one eleventh of his time to the Local Authority to give Clinical advice and B.C.G. Vaccination. (The Local Authority paying an equivalent proportion of the salary).

The incidence of tuberculosis in the City is shown by notifications received from General Practitioners and the Chest Physicians. The graph on page 31 shows that since the war ended there has been a general tendency for the number of cases notified to fall, although in 1955 there was a rise to 58 as compared with 52 in the previous year.

Of this number, 53 were cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 5 Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. Among the pulmonary cases, 35 were males and 18 females, and of these only 11 males and 6 females were under 35 years of age. There were 7 deaths from pulmonary and 1 from other forms of tuberculosis during 1955. (10 and 2 in 1954).

The incidence of Pulmonary tuberculosis as indicated by the age at which the disease is notified, has shown some interesting changes during the last 25 years.

In the age group under 25 years, there was a sharp rise in 1933, followed by a fairly regular incidence during the War. From 1945 to 1949 there was an increase, particularly among females, but there has been a steady decrease since, which was continued in 1955, showing a particularly low level in females.

In the age group 25 to 45 years, there was the same high incidence in 1932, followed by a fall in 1937, with a further marked increase during the War, particularly among males, which continued until 1946. Since then there has been a steady decline in both sexes, with a slight increase in 1955.

In the older age groups over 45 years, the incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis in both sexes was at a constant low level until 1944, when the number of men notified increased, and has remained at a much higher level than for women since that time.

During 1955 the incidence of tuberculosis among females was lower in each age group than that for males.

Despite the fact that the number of deaths from tuberculosis continues to fall year by year, largely due to improved forms of treatment, there still remains within the community a pool of unknown and infectious cases, so that new notifications of the disease have shown a much smaller decline.

The Mass Radiography Service has been instrumental in picking up many of these previously unknown cases, but because of the lack of time and the many demands on the Service there remains a large proportion of the general public who have not taken advantage of the service offered. Where cases of tuberculosis are notified, every effort is made to encourage those in the patient's place of work to attend for mass X-ray, and the Radiography Department at the Manor Hospital is most co-operative in the follow up of special groups and contacts who have been at risk.

Prevention. In its efforts to reduce the spread of infection, much of the time of the Health Department is aimed at improving the living and working conditions of the people, and supervising the manufacture, preparation and sale of food, particularly milk and meat. In this connection the Sanitary Inspectors perform very valuable work behind the scenes, unnoticed by the general public unless an outbreak of food poisoning breaks into the headlines of the Press.

All milk sold in Bath is heat treated or tuberculin tested, and all meat is inspected before it is offered for sale to the public.

Further surveys by the Mass Radiography Service were carried out in Bath during the year, and a number of firms, and pupils and staff

from the senior schools and training colleges, as well as the general public, participated. The following is a summary of the results:—

				Males	Females	Total
No. of Miniature Films	...	...	...	7022	6142	13164
Recalled for large Films	...	...	...	293	187	480
Normal	...	...	...	138	99	237
Significant	...	...	...	127	76	203
Did not attend	...	...	...	8	3	11
Under observation	...	...	...	20	9	29
Analysis of Significant Cases:—						
Non-Tuberculous	...	...	...	81	39	120
Tuberculous:—						
Inactive	...	...	...	43	31	74
Active	...	...	...	3	6	9

As mentioned previously, all contacts of known cases of tuberculosis are examined by X-ray, and arrangements are made for special groups of persons who have been at risk to attend at the Radiography Department of the Manor Hospital. All staff, including teachers, employed by the Local Authority are examined by X-ray on appointment, and those in contact with children are examined annually. In all this work, the Department is in closest touch with the Chest Physician.

B.C.G. vaccination was given to 78 children known to be exposed to infection, after preliminary mantoux testing had been given to 90. 12 of them had acquired immunity. 246 Contacts had the annual check by X ray and Mantoux or jelly test.

No local scheme has been approved for the B.C.G. vaccination of school leavers as yet, but it is hoped to commence in 1956.

Care and After Care of Patients. Hospital accommodation for tuberculous patients at the City Isolation Hospital and Winsley Chest Hospital has proved adequate for the needs of the area, and there is no undue waiting period for admission. Special cases requiring operative treatment are admitted to Frenchay Hospital, Bristol.

Some patients are able to continue treatment at home, and when necessary the District Nurses administer drugs which have to be given by injection under the instructions of the Chest Physician and family doctor.

The Local Authority owns several open air wooden chalets for erection in the patient's garden, which are loaned to suitable cases on the recommendation of the Chest Physician.

During 1955, 81 necessitous patients were provided with a supply of milk at the Council's expense.

The following is a brief summary of the work of the Chest Clinic, which is held at the Manor Hospital on three afternoons each week under the direction of the Chest Physician. The Tuberculosis Health Visitor attends each session. This Visitor made 1,373 visits to the homes of tuberculous patients during the year, and much of her time is devoted to assisting the family in connection with financial and other matters; ensuring that the instructions of the Chest Physician are observed; and providing some diversional occupation for patients unable to work. She is also responsible for the follow-up of possible contacts, and persuading them to attend for examination and X-ray.

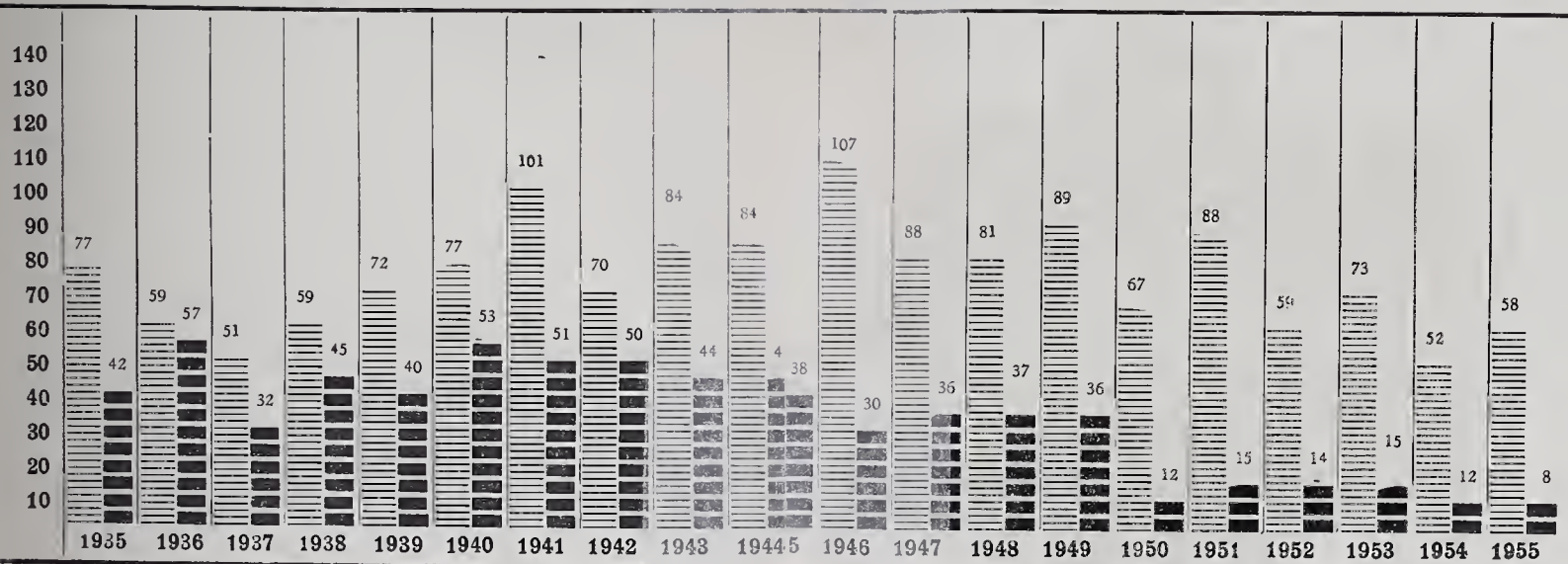
Patients referred to Clinic for examination	....	1295
Found tuberculous	 54	
Contacts examined	 152	
Found tuberculous	 3	
Total attendances, including above	....	3367

It is hoped that the recently formed T.B. After Care Committee will find increasing scope for its activities. At the end of the year a club for tuberculous patients was opened with the kind co-operation of the Welfare Committee, at 12 Charlotte Street. This club is held once a week at present, and provides social and recreational contacts for those who are able to attend. In addition, the Committee has been able to help several needy cases, and at Christmas a party was held for a number of patients. Those unable to attend were given presents. The City Council has made an annual grant of £50 to the Committee.

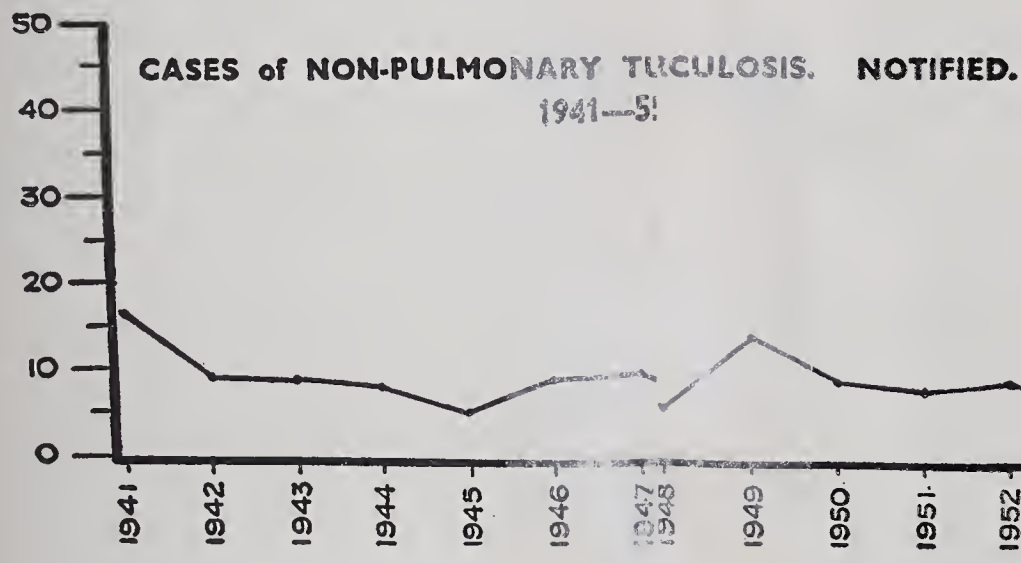
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NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS) 1935-1955

 NOTIFICATION
  DEATHS



Tab



Illness in General.

The prevention of illness and the promotion of good health is the aim of the Public Health Department, and its efforts in this direction involve the various sections of the Department working as a team, in co-operation with other local authority departments and outside bodies.

The work is largely a matter of health education in conjunction with efforts to improve the living and working conditions of the people.

The District Sanitary Inspectors give close attention to all matters relating to food production and sale, and their work in ensuring that the public receive safe food, prepared and sold in satisfactory conditions, often goes unnoticed, but is nevertheless of vital importance in the prevention of illness. The Chief Sanitary Inspector gives full details of this part of his work in his section of this Report.

In matters relating to housing there is close co-operation with the Housing Manager, the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who advise the former in cases where applicants for Council accommodation have a genuine claim on health or sanitary grounds. In addition much of the work of the Sanitary Department is devoted to the inspection of properties where there are contraventions of the Public Health Acts, and in matters relating to the demolition and clearance of slum property.

Cases of infectious illness are visited by the District Sanitary Inspectors, or where appropriate, by the Health Visitors, and necessary advice given to prevent the spread of infection. By arrangement with the Hospital Management Committee, the Authority have facilities at the Manor Hospital for the steam disinfection of clothing, bedding, etc., and for the cleansing of persons suffering from verminous or contagious skin conditions.

The Local Authority's provisions for immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough, and vaccination against smallpox and tuberculosis are detailed earlier in this Report.

Equipment required for the nursing of patients in their own homes is available on loan through the District Nurses, or through the British Red Cross Society, acting as agents for the Local Authority. A deposit is charged for the item loaned, which is refunded on the return of the article in good condition. The articles provided comprise such things as bed rests, bed pans, air rings, wheelchairs, etc. The Department is indebted to Mr. Coleman of the British Red Cross Society, who is responsible for the issue of articles through that Society.

The permissive powers given to Local Authorities under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, to provide for maintenance in holiday homes for convalescent patients, have not been adopted by the Bath City Council.

Venereal Diseases. The general provision for treatment remained unchanged throughout the year. For details of clinics see page 38. The number of Bath patients attending the Clinics at St. Martin's Hospital and the Royal United Hospital for the first time

during 1955 was 151. Of these patients, 16 were found to be suffering from syphilis, 8 from gonorrhoea, and 127 were found to have conditions which were not venereal. As in previous years the majority of the cases attending the Clinics were found on examination not to be suffering from venereal disease, although in most of these cases there had been exposure to risk of infection. In addition to the above figures, 9 Bath patients attended clinics outside the City, of whom 1 was found to be suffering from syphilis.

The local Health Authority continues to be responsible for propaganda on the prevention of these diseases, and for the follow up of patients and contacts where requested.

Adult Orthopaedic Clinic. The follow up Clinic arranged for adults who had during childhood been treated for various orthopaedic defects is held in the Health Department by arrangement with the Hospital Management Committee. Five sessions were held when 27 individual patients made 35 attendances.

Laboratory Work. The work of the Health Department is greatly assisted by the facilities offered by the Area Laboratory at St. Martin's Hospital, and the Public Health Laboratory at the Manor Hospital. The former is used mainly in connection with blood examinations from expectant mothers referred from the Antenatal Clinics, while the Public Health Laboratory deals with numerous specimens submitted not only by the Health Department, but by the Private Practitioners in connection with infectious disease, food poisoning, dysentery, etc. The assistance rendered to the Department by the Directors and Staff of both Laboratories is much appreciated.

For details of analyses of food and drugs, milk, ice cream and water carried out by the City Analyst and the Public Health Laboratory, see pages 61-64 and 73-75.

CANCER.

Reliable figures of the incidence of Cancer are not available. The Department can only judge by the number of deaths registered as due to cancer. Valuable additional information is given by the Regional Cancer Records Bureau which records over 90% of cases dealt with by hospitals, and carries out a follow-up survey of cases registered. Information is also given by Domiciliary Nurses who deal with cases after discharge from hospital, and those under the care of General Practitioners. It is probable that the majority of these are incurable cases in the terminal stages.

The figures given below refer to cases of cancer in the City, but must be studied with care, as individual cases will certainly have been recorded by more than one section of the health services.

TABLE I
Cancer in Bath.

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Deaths from Cancer registered ...	152	150	197	178	165	191
Cancer Records Bureau.						
(a) New cases	173	184	216	254	236	238
(b) Died during year	84	79	105	96	103	120
(c) Cases not registered who died during year	—	—	—	—	—	52
(d) Cases too advanced for treatment. (Palliative care and home nursing only)	60	53	79	72	78	63
(e) Cancer of Breast:—						
(i) alive after 5 years ...	—	—	—	36%	37%	41%
(ii) delayed consultation with Doctor for over 12 months...	—	—	—	37%	32%	25%
(iii) In advanced stage when presented at hospital ..	—	—	—	26%	23%	18%
(f) All cases of Cancer (excluding cancer of skin) alive after 5 years	36%	46%	23%	24%	26%	30%

During the year the Home Nursing Service in Bath attended 78 patients suffering from cancer, involving 1,576 visits. Of these patients 39 died and 18 were admitted to hospital or nursing home.

It cannot be assumed that the increase in new cases during the years is due to the incidence of cancer. The apparent increase may be due largely to more complete registration of cases by the hospitals.

It should be noted that of 238 new cases, 63 had reached an advanced stage beyond treatment when first seen at hospital, and that 25% of cases of breast cancer had delayed consultation with their doctor for 12 months or more.

The figures in Table II show the place of death of 174 cases involving Bath residents who died in the City during the year. It should be noted that 67 died in private houses. As the terminal stages of cancer may be very distressing to relatives as well as the patient, involve considerable nursing care, and in many cases, the administration of dangerous drugs necessary to prevent suffering, it is a matter for great concern that adequate hospital or nursing home accommodation is not available for these distressing cases.

TABLE II
Place of Death of Cancer Cases
(Bath residents) in area during 1955.

St. Martin's Hospital	56 (Males 29; Females 27)
Royal United and Forbes Fraser Hospitals ...	22 (Males 8; Females 14)
Manor Hospital	10 (Males 9; Females 1)
Isolation Hospital	1 (Males 1)
Private Nursing Homes	28 (Males 3; Females 25)
Private houses	67 (Males 30; Females 37)

Reliable facts which are revealed by these figures are that earlier consultation with the family doctor and immediate reference to hospital would make early diagnosis and treatment possible, with a greater hope of cure, and that urgent consideration should be given to the medical and nursing care of cases which are not amenable to treatment.

Opinion differs on the question of education of the public in the matter of cancer. The delay in consulting a doctor when there are obviously suspicious signs suggests that fear of being told the truth deters many. The results of the 5 year follow-up show that in certain forms of cancer, notably of the skin and breast, modern treatment is very effective and the chance of cure good, always provided that treatment is instituted early. The public should therefore fear only that they might delay too long in obtaining skilled advice.

Treatment of cancer is available in the Bath Hospitals where cases needing surgical treatment alone are dealt with. X-ray treatment and combined X-ray and surgery can be given at the Royal United Hospital. Certain cases needing special forms of X-ray treatment are dealt with at the Bristol Centre, with which the local hospitals work in close harmony.

HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

The care of handicapped persons of all types is the responsibility of the Welfare Committee.

1. Blind Persons.

The Chief Welfare Officer is responsible for the registration and the care of blind persons. At the end of 1955 there were 232 persons registered as blind and 23 as partially sighted. 8 persons were recommended for treatment of cataract, either medical, surgical or optical. Of these it was found on follow up that 4 received treatment during the year. 3 cases of glaucoma were registered and treatment was advised in one case. There were no cases of retrolental fibroplasia. 17 other blind persons were registered during the year for whom treatment was advised in the case of 5, and on follow up was found to have been given to 3. For 12 other persons no treatment was advised.

FOLLOW-UP OF REGISTERED BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS.

(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Form B.D.8 recommends:-	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(a) No treatment	7	2	—	12
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical).	8	1	—	5
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment.	4	1	—	3

2. Deaf and Dumb.

The Somerset Diocesan Mission to the Deaf cares for deaf and hard of hearing persons over the age of 16 in this area on an agency basis. The number of persons registered at the end of 1955 was 105.

3. Epileptics and Spastics.

There can be no correct information as to the number of epileptic or spastic adults in the community as neither of these conditions are notifiable. The Welfare Committee is responsible for the care of these handicapped persons through the Welfare Officer. At the end of 1955 there were 23 epileptic adults and 5 adults suffering from spastic paraplegia on the Register of Handicapped Persons in this City. The treatment of epileptics is in the hands of General Practitioners and no special cases were brought to the notice of the Authority during the year. There is no special provision for the care and education of persons suffering from spastic paraplegia, except that treatment facilities are available at

the Spa Bathing Establishment where the hot pool is found to be exceedingly successful in relaxing and educating spastic muscles. More accurate knowledge is, of course, available with regard to children of school age and under, who suffer from epilepsy or spastic paraplegia. Details are given on page 97 of my report as Principal School Medical Officer.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

DAYS AND TIMES OF ATTENDANCE. DEC., 1955

	See also page	Monday	Tuesday	We'n'day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Infant Welfare Centres :							
* Blue Coat House ...	14		2.30—4			2.30—4	
Walcot ...	"			2.30—4			
Oldfield Park ...	"			2.30—4			
Southdown ...	"	2.30—4					
Odd Down ...	"		2.30—4				
Weston ...	"	2.30—4					
Twerton ...	"				2.30—4		
Ante-Natal Clinics :							
45 Rivers Street ...	"			10—12 2—3.30			
Post-Natal :							
45 Rivers Street ...	15		10—11.30	(1st Tuesday)			...
* Maternity & Chl'd Welfare							
Dental Clinic ...	16	By appointment					
Tuberculosis —							
Chest Clinic, Manor Hos.	30	2—4			2—4	2—4	
Artificial Sunlight Treatment ...	—	...	...	By appointment			
Venereal Diseases							
Men (R.U.H.) ...	32					5—6.30	5—6.30
Women (R.U.H.) ...	...		5—6.30			2.30	
Women (St. Martin's)	...		2 p.m.				
Men (St. Martin's)	...		2 p.m.				
School Clinics —							
Inspection : —							
* Blue Coat House ...	...					9.30—12	
† Moorlands Inf. Sch. ...	...		9.30—12	(monthly	1st Tues.)		
† Fosseway Inf. & Jnr. ...	...			9.30—11.30	(monthly	1st Wed.)	
† St. Lukes Prim. ...	...			9.30—11.30	(monthly	3rd Wed.)	
† City of Bath Boys' ...	...			9.30—12	fortnightly :	2nd & 4th Wed.)	
† Southdown Jnr. ...	...		9.30—12	(monthly	2nd Tues.)		
Eye Infirmary ...	...	9.30		2.0			
* Dental ...	...	9.30—5	9.30—5	9.30—5	9.30—5	9.30—5	10—12
Ear, Nose and Throat :							
St. Martin's Hospital ...	...				9.15†	By appointment	
Minor Ailments Clinic							
* Blue Coat House ...	...	9.30—12		9.30—12		9.30—12	9.30—12
Other Schools see Inspection above	...						
* Orthopaedic							
After-Care Clinic ...	...			10—12 & 2—4	10—12 & 2—4		
Orthopaedic Hospital							
Massage ...	...	Daily	by	appointment.		...	...
Ultra-Violet rays ...	...	By appointment					

* These Clinics are held at Blue Coat House † 2nd & 4th Thursdays of Month

† School Nurse attends weekly

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

Administration. There were no changes in the Local Authority's administrative arrangements in connection with the Mental Health Service as set out in my Report for 1954.

Care of Mental Defectives. During the year, 117 mentally defective persons were supervised in their own homes by Mental Health Officers. 34 of these persons attended the Occupation Centre daily.

An average of about 10 female defectives on licence from various Hospitals to places of employment in the City were supervised by Health Visitors. The officers of the Health Department made 364 visits to the homes for supervisory reasons, and supplied to the Hospital Management Committees, 55 special reports concerning progress and holiday leave etc.

New cases were ascertained during the year as follows :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under the Education Act, 1944.			
(a) Section 57 (3)	3	1	
(b) Section 57 (5)	—	—	
From other sources	3	4	11

These cases were dealt with as follows :—

Admitted to Institutions ...	1	3	
Placed under Guardianship ...	—	—	
Placed under Supervision ...	5	2	11

Cases on Register at end of the year :—

In Institutions (including cases on licence)	70	52	122
Under Guardianship	—	1	1
Under Voluntary supervision ...	2	—	2
Under Statutory supervision ...	67	47	114
	139	100	239

At the end of the year one male patient was awaiting admission to an Institution.

Under the provisions of Ministry of Health Circular 5/52, 4 male patients were admitted for short periods to Institutions in order to give their families a brief relief from their care.

Petitions for an Order under Section 5 of the Mental Deficiency Act were presented on four occasions, and one child was admitted to an Institution under Section 3 at the instance of the parents.

Occupation Centre. The number of patients attending the Occupation Centre at Millbrook Place, remained much the same as in the previous year. At the end of 1955, 34 of our supervision cases were in attendance, and in addition there were 5 cases from the area of the Somerset County Council.

The Centre provides opportunities for speech and sense training, in addition to the normal occupational work, such as needlework, leatherwork and rug making. This handwork has reached a high standard under the sympathetic guidance of the Supervisor and her staff. At the end of the year a display and sale of the work made was arranged, and a sum of over £270 was realised. The Mayor and other members of the City Council attended the sale, and were later entertained by the children.

Mid-day meals are provided at the Centre through the School Meals Service, and car transport is provided for the majority of those attending.

Social activities in connection with the Centre included a Christmas Party, a visit to the local Pantomime, and a coach trip to the seaside during the summer. The link between the Centre and the parents of children attending, has been strengthened by the recent formation of an affiliated branch to the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children.

Lunacy and Mental Treatment. The number of cases dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts during 1955 was as follows. (1954 figures are shown in brackets):—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Admitted on 3 Day Order	73	104	177 (167)
Admitted on 14 Day Order	1	6	7 (7)
Admitted Summary Reception Order	5	13	18 (40)
Admitted Temporary Order	15	8	23 (10)
Admitted Voluntary	39	67	106 (91)

Of the patients certified, 15 were dealt with after initial action under sections 20 and 21, and 3 direct.

19 patients under temporary order were dealt with after action under section 20, and 4 admitted direct.

Of the voluntary patients, 59 (17 male and 42 female) were dealt with after action under sections 20 and 21; and 47 (22 male and 25 female) direct.

With regard to the age groups, it should be noted that out of 184 patients admitted under sections 20 and 21, 82 of them (33 male and 49 female) were over the age of 65, including 20 (6 male and 14 female) who were over the age of 80.

Of the 18 patients certified, only one male was over the age of 65, and of the 23 temporary patients, 14 (8 male and 6 female) were over the age of 65, including one male over 80 years.

Of the 106 voluntary patients, 34 (10 male and 24 female) were over the age of 65, including 5 who were over 80.

The chief trend during the year has been the marked reduction of certified patients, with an increase of temporary and voluntary patients. It may be pointed out that all temporary patients are certifiable, but as they were non-volitional, certification was avoided. A number of voluntary patients could also have been certified, but as they agreed to receive voluntary treatment, certification was avoided.

Many senile cases were able either to return home or be transferred to geriatric wards after being detained for 17 or 28 days under the appropriate orders.

In addition 40 cases were investigated during the year where no action was taken under the Acts, and advice and support has been given on numerous occasions to old cases.

The Psychiatric Social Worker who was appointed in 1954, jointly with the Mendip Hospital Management Committee, reports as follows:—

One hundred and seventy-two cases were referred to the Psychiatric Social Worker during 1955. In addition, 24 referred in 1954 continued to receive attention: the majority of these had been referred following their discharge from hospital and appeared to need a long period of support in order to cope with the problems of everyday life.

The cases were referred from the following sources: (figures in brackets are those referred during the last six months of 1954).

Out-Patient Department, (one session weekly)	Royal		
United Hospital and St. Martin's Hospital	...	...	34 (16)
Observation Ward, St. Martin's Hospital	...	...	35 (21)
Weston Lodge	...	...	29 (8)
Mendip Hospital, Wells	...	...	42 (32)
Community Care: referrals from General Practitioners, Health Visitors, General Hospitals, Social Workers	...	...	33 (23)

After Care

Of those referred from Weston Lodge, Observation Wards and Mendip Hospital, Wells, 46 were for after care. When help is needed in connection with employment, the case is discussed with one of the Disablement Resettlement Officers who have been very helpful and take a great interest in trying to meet each individual's needs. Regular meetings called by the Ministry of Labour in Bristol for Disablement Resettlement Officers and Social Workers have also been helpful in making available up-to-date information about Government Training Courses, and in providing an opportunity to discuss problems in connection with the employment of the disabled. It is evident from these

meetings that the facilities for training and employing those disabled by mental illness lag very far behind those available to other types of disablement.

Reference was made in last year's report to the difficulty of providing useful occupation for those unable to manage a job. This difficulty continues, but a few people have been helped by being able to attend the Royal United Hospital Occupational Therapy Department as Out-patients. In addition to bringing them into contact with other people, this can be used as a stepping stone to part-time employment.

Community Care

Many cases referred to the Psychiatric Social Worker are already known to other Departments and special attention has been paid to the importance of co-operation at all stages. This applies especially to the Health Visitors who are in a good strategic position to do a great deal in preventing mental ill health. Considerable time has been spent discussing with them the way to help mothers who have psychiatric problems themselves, or need help in handling their children. When cases are taken on by the Psychiatric Social Worker the Health Visitor's knowledge of the home background is very helpful. It may be advisable in some cases for both the Psychiatric Social Worker and Health Visitor to visit because each has a different reason for doing so. Provided there is adequate co-operation and understanding of each other's function, more help can be given to the family than if either the Health Visitor or Psychiatric Social Worker tackled the problem alone.

During National Baby Week the Psychiatric Social Worker was asked to give short talks at the Infant Welfare Clinics. The value of such talks depended very much on the accommodation available, but in any case the Infant Welfare Clinic is an ideal place in which to draw attention to the importance of healthy emotional development in young children.

The Psychiatric Social Worker has also worked in close co-operation with those responsible for the welfare of old people. Many elderly people exhibit some degree of senility which makes them difficult to manage, but their admission to hospital can sometimes be prevented if their relatives, or those responsible for their care, can be given sufficient understanding of the way to handle them, and, of equal importance, insight into their anxieties in connection with mental illness.

Educational

A considerable amount of work has been done in connection with the growing demand for information about mental illness and the Mental Health Service. Talks have been given to societies and groups of all kinds including Bath Soroptimists, Fabians, Women's Institutes, Association of Friends of Mendip Hospital, Nursery Teachers' Association and Domestic Science Training College students. As well as trying to increase the understanding of mental illness, emphasis is made on the responsibility of all sections of the community in promoting and safeguarding mental health. The Psychiatric Social Worker has continued to serve on the

Committee of the Friends of Mendip Hospital and the Bath Association of Parents of the Mentally Handicapped. In both cases she is able to act as a link between the voluntary organisation and statutory authority, and to help direct the members' active interest in problems arising from mental handicap.

The Psychiatric Social Worker also works for at least one session each week in the Child Guidance Centre. This appointment of a Psychiatric Social Worker was made originally with the idea that she would be occupied mainly with the care of persons showing signs of mental illness, and the aftercare of those who had been discharged from mental hospitals. This work has increased in this full first year. Possibly however the appointment will prove to be of greatest value in the field of prevention. Much mental illness probably starts in childhood, and Health Visitors are faced increasingly with problems of child training which if neglected may develop into mental illness in adult life. One of the most valuable advantages therefore of the appointment of a Psychiatric Social Worker is that she is available for consultation by Health Visitors, the Children's Officer and others.

Voluntary Supervision of School Leavers

As it had become evident that a number of young men and women who for various reasons were giving cause for anxiety, and that in many cases their mental condition was in question, the Education Authority agreed that school leavers who for any reason appeared to be in need of further help in the difficult period of transition from school life to the much wider field of employment, should be recommended for voluntary supervision with the agreement of their parents.

A retired School Nurse has been employed on a basis of about four sessions weekly to carry out the supervision, because she knows and is known to the children while at school. The supervision is thus not obtrusive. Cases for supervision are selected by the Deputy Principal School Medical Officer in consultation with Head Teachers, and an explanatory letter is sent to the parents.

The object of supervision is to assist backward school leavers to obtain employment suitable to their capacity, and to detect signs of failure or abnormal conduct in order to anticipate failure, and so prevent delinquency, or to pick out any who may in the unfamiliar new life, prove to be mentally defective before failure brings them to the notice of the Police, etc.

Regular supervision began late in 1954 when 31 children were put under voluntary supervision. During 1955, 94 new cases were recommended for supervision. Each received an initial home visit and were re-visited for further follow-up on 152 occasions. Only on three occasions have the parents concerned been unco-operative.

The Visitor has received much guidance from Head Teachers of the Schools from which the children come, and has been given valuable advice and assistance in settling them by the Youth Employment Officer. Valuable help has been provided through the Technical College by teaching those who are backward in reading. It is early to assess this new scheme, but I believe it to be of value in preventing failure,

MISCELLANEOUS

Nursing and Maternity Homes Registration

	Nursing Homes only	Maternity Homes only	Combined Nursing & Maternity
Homes removed from Register	... —	—	2
Homes added to Register	... —	—	—
Leaving at end of year	... 10	—	2

Each Nursing or Maternity Home is visited periodically by a Medical Officer. Of the 235 beds provided by these homes, 8 were for maternity cases and the remainder for general nursing.

Nurses' Agencies Regulations, 1945

These Regulations, made by the Minister of Health in accordance with Part II. of the Nurses Act, 1943, deal with the conditions under which licences may be granted by the Local Authority to persons desiring to carry on an agency for the supply of nurses. They are administered in Bath through the Health Committee.

One Agency was licensed at the end of the year.

Superannuation Examinations

The number of examinations of Council employees carried out by the medical staff, for superannuation and other purposes during 1955 was 193. In addition, 19 examinations were carried out for other authorities, and 39 candidates for Training Colleges were examined. An X-Ray examination of the chest is now carried out in respect of each candidate for Council employment.

National Assistance Act

Although numerous cases of aged and infirm persons living in difficult circumstances were reported to the Health Department during the year, it was necessary to use the powers of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, on only one occasion. The old lady in question settled happily in the Nursing Home to which she was removed, and it was unnecessary to take any action to renew the order authorising her removal.

With the co-operation of the Geriatrician, the Family Doctor and the various services provided by the Local Authority, it has been found possible to meet most of the difficulties which have arisen in connection with these old folk, and every effort is made to keep them in their own homes. There have been cases however, where hospital care was the only answer, and the lack of beds has delayed admission.

The problem of the care of the aged is particularly acute in a City like Bath, despite the expansion of the Health Department services, such as home help and home nursing, and it is essential that there should be the fullest co-operation between the Hospital, General Practitioner and Local Authority services if the increasing needs of this section of our community are to be met.

Meteorological Observations

Daily meteorological readings are taken at the Council's enclosure at Henrietta Park. The following are notes of interest in respect of the readings taken during the year. A summary of observations is given on page 84.

RAINFALL :

Total for the year—27·25 ins. on 151 wet days. 10·24 ins. less than last year.

Average for 90 years—30·87 ins. on 162 wet days.

Greatest fall in 24 hours—1·17 ins. on 3rd June. This was the wettest June day since 1935.

July was the driest month with a total of ·83 ins.

SUNSHINE :

Total for year—1,732·8 hours. (1,382·3 hours in 1954).

Average for 50 years—152·6 hours.

July was the sunniest month (278·2 hours) and December the duller with 22·3 hours.

Sunniest day 30th May with 15·2 hours. This was the sunniest May day on record.

TEMPERATURES :

Highest Maximum—87·8 on 23rd August.

Lowest Minimum—15·1 on 15th January.

Mean for the year—49·5.

Mean average for 55 years—49·9.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY :

The mean for 1955 was 76 %.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Consumption

Constant Bacteriological and Chemical Analyses taken during the year show that the normal high standard of purity and quality has been maintained, due to constant and effective watchfulness.

Commencing in July, 1955, assistance was invoked from the new Chew Valley Works of the Bristol Waterworks Company, to enable a full supply to be maintained in the City. This water cannot be mixed with the other waters owing to the layout of mains and therefore, certain districts only had the benefit of the softer water from Chew.

As a result of the dry weather which brought about the need for the assistance from Bristol, Monkswood Reservoir storage was much depleted, and the opportunity was taken to clean the reservoir. Over 1,500 tons of material were removed, including mud and dead "algae" growth.

Neither the existing sources nor the bulk supply have any appreciable plumbo-solvency action.

With very few exceptions all Bath houses have access to a piped supply from the Corporation mains, although not all have "exclusive use" as envisaged by the questionnaire embodied in the 1951 Census Form.

I am indebted to the City and Waterworks Engineer for the following account of the City's water supplies and for the appended chemical and bacteriological analyses.

"With the inauguration of the use of water supplied in Bulk by the Bristol Waterworks Company a new era opens in the long history of the Bath Waterworks. Up to the present the City has relied exclusively upon water derived from springs. Such water continues to form the majority of the water consumed.

This spring water is intercepted by underground adits and wells which fall into two categories.

(a) Those arising at the base of the Great Oolite where it rests on the Fuller's Earth; these are usually called the Shallow or Upper Springs.

(b) Those arising at the base of the Inferior Oolite or in the Midford Sands where these rest on the Lias beds; these are usually called the Deep Seated or Lower Springs.

All the Springs in the former category which are now to be kept in use are situated on the upper slopes of the St. Catherine's Valley and its branches and for their protection the Corporation has purchased large tracts of land principally on the hill top. Many springs in this category on which the City formerly relied have now been turned to waste, notably those under Sharn Castle. Those at Langridge will similarly be turned to waste in the course of the next few months. The Deep Seated Springs are on the lower slopes of the St. Catherine's Valley, on the lower slopes around Broadmoor Lane, Weston and in the Valley of the Midford Brook at Midford and Tucking Mill.

The Springs intercepted in the St. Catherine's and its branch Valleys are collected into three groups, two of which are each centred on a storage reservoir which is an open structure lined with stone. In the collection no distinction is made between the Shallow and Deep Seated Springs so that each reservoir receives a quota from both types. These reservoirs are known as Monkswood and Batheaston. The Springs at the third group known as Oakford and those at Weston are collected into small service reservoirs which only serve to even out the minute to minute changes in demand. In all these cases, the water from the reservoirs passes into consumption by gravity as opposed to the water from the Springs at Midford and Tucking Mill which have to be pumped to Hampton Down Reservoir since they are intercepted at too low a level to enable them to be used in any other way.

Supplies to the upper slopes of Lansdown are maintained by pumping water out of the Monkswood system at Charlcombe into a system of water towers and reservoirs at Lansdown (near Ensleigh), Lansdown Wood and Royal Schools. The Upper Slopes of the South Side of the

City and Rural Area to the South of the City are fed from Hampton Down Reservoir which in addition to water from Midford and Tucking Mill, receives a supplementary supply from one or other of the St. Catherine's Valley reservoirs by pumping at Canal or at Warminster Road Pumping Station.

All spring waters are subject to frequent analysis by the City Analyst, Dr. James, and have up to the present been considered of a sufficiently good standard to enable them to be used without any treatment other than rough screening and the addition of a dose of chlorine. For the purpose of administering the chlorine, separate stations exist at each of the seven groups mentioned (including the one at Langridge soon to be discontinued).

It should be emphasised that, with the absence of any form of filtration plant the purity of supply depends essentially on the continued vigilant protection of the catchment areas around the Springs. Such protective measures taken in these areas against the possibility of pollution must be regarded as an important and necessary first line of defence ; subsequent chlorination in order to produce a sterile water can only be regarded as a supplementary and final defensive measure.

To meet the deficiency which occurs to a varying degree each year in the quantity of water which is available from these Springs to meet the growing demands of the City and surrounding area, a supplementary supply has been secured from the Chew Valley sources of the Bristol Waterworks Company. This water is pumped from the Company's Treatment Station at Stowey into a service reservoir at Featherbed Lane, Clutton, from which point the Clutton R.D.C. also take a supply. Water from this reservoir flows by gravity through an 18 in. dia. trunk main into another service reservoir now being constructed at Englishcombe. From this point it flows through a similar main to Bath and is injected into the Western end of the Monkswood system. The water so saved on the Monkswood system is available for use on the rest of that system at the Eastern end or for pumping at Charlcombe or Warminster Road to the Northern and Southern slopes.

The aforementioned supplementary supply comes from the Bristol Waterworks Company's new storage reservoir at Chew Stoke where waters from the River Chew have been impounded by an earthen dam recently constructed across the valley. This water which receives full treatment at Stowey Works, including settlement, filtration, softening and chlorination, is considerably softer than that from the Corporation's own sources, but unfortunately, due to limitations inherent within the Bath distribution system, it is impossible at the present time to ensure that supplies of soft water are equally available to all consumers, during such periods that water is being taken from Bristol sources.

Appended are typical chemical and bacteriological analyses of the waters."

	Monkswood	Batheaston		Oakford	Weston	Langridge	Midford	Tucking Mill
		Upper	Lower					
BACTERIOLOGICAL								
Samples taken on 30th Nov., 1955								
Bacteria growing on Agar per ml. ...	2	1	3	3	33	10	0	4
No. in 48 hrs. at 37 C. ...	0	1	4	2	2	1	0	2
No. in 72 hrs. at 22 C. ...	absent	absent	1	absent	3	absent	absent	absent
Coliform Organisms. Count per 100 ml. ...	"	"	absent	"	absent	"	"	"
Faecal coli. do.	0.15	0.15	0.20	0.10	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.10
Free Chlorine p.p.m....								
Samples taken on 14th Dec., 1955								
Bacteria growing on Agar per ml. ...	5	25	3	14	0		16	17
No. in 48 hrs. at 37 C. ...	0	2	0	25	0		1	33
No. in 72 hrs. at 22 C. ...	"	"	"	8	absent		absent	absent
Coliform Organisms. Count per 100 ml. ...	"	"	"	absent	"		"	"
Faecal Coli. do.	0.2	0.15	0.10	0.15	0.15		0.30	0.10
Free Chlorine p.p.m.								
CHEMICAL								
Samples taken on 16th Dec., 1955								
(Results expressed in parts per million)								
Appearance ...	clear	clear & bright	clear & bright	clear & bright	clear & bright	clear & bright	clear & bright	clear & bright
Taste and Odour ...	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal
Colour ...	"	7.6	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.4	7.3	7.4
pH Value ...	0.12	0.10	0.12	0.05	0.10	0.15	0.15	0.15
Free Chlorine ...	380	450	420	440	400	370	390	490
Total Solid Residue ...	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Suspended matter ...	11	16	18	20	16	13	18	22
Chlorine as chloride ...	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.053	0.0124	0.198	0.013	0.020
Ammoniacal Nitrogen ...	0.0497	0.016	0.0429	0.011	0.0545	0.045	0.019	0.037
Albuminoid Nitrogen ...	1.62	1.73	2.40	1.17	0.99	1.14	2.47	3.30
Nitrate Nitrogen ...	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Nitrite Nitrogen ...	220	210	224	216	254	214	232	228
Total Alkalinity ...	312	316	320	322	328	328	380	360
Hardness : Total ...	220	210	224	216	254	214	232	228
Temporary	92	106	96	106	74	114	148	132
Permanent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent
Poisonous metals ...	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.9	0.10
Permanganate figure ...	0.060	0.070	0.042	0.053	0.068	0.092	0.049	0.080

ANALYSIS OF WATER FROM STOWEY

Chemical Analysis

Appearance	...	...	...	...	...	Bright and clear
Taste and Odour	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Colour (Burgess)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
pH	...	...	...	...	...	8.6 (results in part per million)
Free chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	0.30
Total solids (dries at 105°C.)	...	...	...	...	...	157
Suspended solids (dries at 105°C.)	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Chlorine as Chlorides	...	...	...	...	...	14.0
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (free ammonia expressed as N)	...	...	...	...	...	0.082
Albuminoid Nitrogen (expressed as N)	...	...	...	...	...	0.028
Nitrate (expressed as N)	...	...	...	...	...	1.79
Nitrate (expressed as N)	...	...	...	...	...	0.01
Total alkalinity (as Calcium Carbonate)	...	...	...	...	...	75
Hardness (Total)	...	...	...	...	...	108
„ (Temporary)	...	...	...	...	...	40
„ (Permanent)	...	...	...	...	...	68
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate	...	...	...	...	...	0.38
Iron	...	...	...	...	...	0.05
Lead	} ...	...	...	...	...	absent
Zinc						
Manganese						

Bacteriological Analysis

No. of bacteria per ml growing on Agar at 37°C. in 2 days	...	...	62
No. of bacteria per ml growing on Agar at 20°C. in 3 days	...	...	7
Most probable is of Coliform organisms per 100 mls	...	...	Nil
Most probable is of Faecal Coli per 100 mls	...	...	Nil

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

An analysis of notifications received during 1955 in relation to the age and sex of the patients is given on page 83. On page 10, notifications, attack rates, of the principal diseases are summarised and the figures compared with similar ones for previous years. Further details in regard to particular diseases are given below.

Diphtheria. For the second year in succession no cases of diphtheria were notified in Bath.

Scarlet Fever. The number of cases notified was 45 as compared with 46 last year. This disease continued to be of a mild type and the majority of cases are being nursed at home, only 3 being admitted to hospital.

Measles. Notifications numbered 1,384 as against 23 for last year. Most of the cases occurred during the latter half of the year. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough. Notifications increased from 146 in 1954 to 225. There were no deaths.

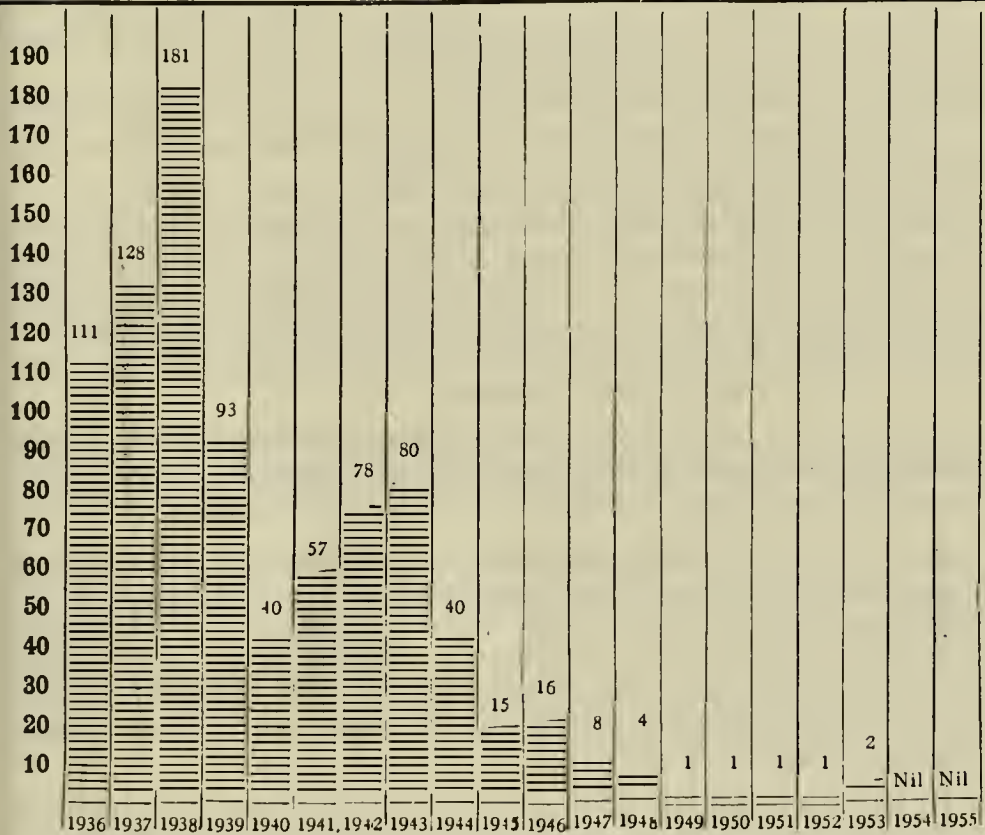
Acute Poliomyelitis. Only 4 cases of poliomyelitis were notified, with some form of paralysis in 2 instances. There were no deaths.

Dysentery. The number of cases notified rose from 22 in 1954 to 172 last year. Most of the cases occurred in the Upper Weston area during the early part of the summer, and over 100 children and adults were involved. In addition there were outbreaks in two local institutions. Just before the end of the year a further outbreak commenced in an area near the centre of the City, and continued into 1956.

In addition to the notified cases, it was clear that there were numerous other instances of the infection where medical advice was not sought. Every effort was made to minimise the spread of infection through the schools, and the Health Visitors made many visits to the homes of the persons concerned to impress the need for strict attention to matters of personal hygiene. In many cases the infection took some time to clear up, and a good deal of school time was lost. 89 of the notified cases occurred in children of school age.

Food Poisoning. Twelve cases of food poisoning were notified, 8 due to salmonella typhimurium infection, 2 probably due to staphylococcus pyogenes, and 2 of undiscovered cause. In two cases meat pies appeared to be implicated, but in the remainder of the cases no cause was discovered. In this type of case, early notification is essential to enable the Sanitary Inspector to carry out his investigations. In many cases the patient is recovering and suspected food disposed of before the Health Department is advised of the outbreak.

NOTIFICATIONS OF DIPHTHERIA, BATH 1936—1955



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
 (and Chief Housing Inspector)
FOR THE YEAR 1955

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND THE ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
 THE CITY OF BATH.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the sanitary administration of the City during the year 1955.

Pressure of work in connection with meat inspection, food hygiene and housing resulted in less attention being given to a number of other duties but the total amount of work accomplished reflects credit on the manner in which the whole of the staff carried out their duties throughout the year. Efforts to secure an additional sanitary inspector were unsuccessful despite repeated advertisements.

The number of animals slaughtered for human consumption increased by 5,600 over the previous year's total and the inspectors were on duty during the late evenings, on Saturday afternoons and Sundays.

Hygiene in food and catering premises received considerable attention and the practice of giving lectures and shewing films to groups of food-handlers was continued. Less than three per cent. of the samples of food and drugs submitted for analysis were reported as not genuine and exceptionally good results were returned in respect of samples of milk examined bacteriologically; but the position with regard to ice-cream was less satisfactory than in 1954.

Official representations were submitted in respect of three clearance areas and steady progress was made in respect of individual unfit houses.

I had the honour to be appointed to the Sanitary Inspectors' Education Board which was set up by the Ministry of Health on the recommendations of a Working Party.

Once again I express thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committees for their support, to Dr. Weston with whom there has been the utmost co-operation and to every member of the staff for splendid service and good team spirit at all times.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

A. TYLER,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector,
 Chief Housing Inspector.*

SECTION I.

HOUSING.

Slum Clearance :

Pre War schemes : Fifteen houses in clearance areas confirmed before 1939, still await demolition.

Post War schemes :

Snow Hill : The Snow Hill areas Nos. 1 and 2, contain a total of 207 houses to be demolished (200 confirmed following a public inquiry and 7 others to be acquired under the scheme). A total of 123 had been demolished up to 31.12.55.

The following clearance areas were the subject of official representations in 1955 but at 31st December, public inquiries had not been held :—

Locksbrook No. 1 Clearance area :

Comprising Nos. 31a, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42 and 43, Locksbrook Road (12 houses).

Lower Bristol Road (No. 1) Clearance area :

Comprising Nos. 1 and 2, Coronation Place, and 7 and 8, Rosebery Road (4 houses).

Lower Bristol Road (No. 2) Clearance area :

Comprising Nos. 25, 26, 27 and 28, Rosebery Road (4 houses).

Individual unfit houses :

(a) Notices to repair—Section 9, Housing Act, 1936 :

5, Barton Buildings	...	...	...	...	1
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) Demolition Orders served—Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 :

30, 31, 32, High Street, Twerton	...	...	...	3
----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

(c) Undertakings accepted in lieu of Demolition Orders (Formal procedure) :

24, 25, Calton Road,				
Station Cottage, Netley House, Netley Cottage,				
Claverton Street,				
2, St. Mark's Cottages,				
23, Lower Bristol Road,				
1, Southgate Place,				
9, Sydney Wharf,				
6, Broad Quay,				
6, Georges Buildings,				
11, 12, 13, London Place	...	...	...	14

(Informal procedure) :

4, 5, 6, 7, The Island,				
85, 86, 87, 88, 89, Avon Street,				
1, 2, 3, Brook Place,				
38, High Street, Twerton,				
25a, 26, 27, 33, 34, Calton Road	...	...	...	18

(d) Houses closed under Section 10, Local Government (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1953 :

1, St. Mark's Cottages,				
14, Camden Cottages,				
57, Calton Road	...	...	...	3
A Closing Order in respect of 7, Caroline Terrace, was revoked on completion of works which has made the house reasonably fit for human habitation)				

(e) Houses demolished following formal or informal action :

35, High Street, Twerton,				
6, 7, The Island	...	...	...	3

(f) Houses in respect of which offers of work were accepted following formal procedure :

15, Lambridge Street,				
Cooper's Cottage, Horsecombe Vale	..	...	...	2

(g) Basements or parts of buildings in respect of which Closing Orders were made—Section 12, Housing Act, 1936 :

52, Lyncombe Hill (basement),				
2, Cavendish Crescent (basement),				
203, Wellsway (basement),				
36, Bathwick Hill (basement) ...	...	...	...	4

(h) Basements Closed on Undertaking in lieu of Closing Order :

13, New King Street,				
49, Rivers Street,				
3, Macaulay Buildings,				
19, Stuart Place,				
11, Percy Place,				
3, Portland Place,				
7, Caroline Terrace	...	...	...	7

During the past ten years approximately 360 unfit houses have been demolished and a further 144 closed in lieu of Demolition. During the same period 22 basements have been closed. The basement problem is of course, one of considerable importance in a City such as Bath, and the survey carried out in 1948 revealed that there were at that time

approximately 3,000 basements of which 580 were classified as wholly unfit for human habitation: 1,700 partly unfit and a further 160 were border line cases. The Model Regulations issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in 1954 in respect of underground rooms have not yet been adopted in Bath.

Housing Act, 1949:

(a) **Advances under Section 4:**

Information was supplied to the City Planning Officer in respect of twenty-two applications.

(b) **Improvement Grants (Section 20):**

Applications received	...	...	...	44
Applications approved	...	...	...	34
Applications refused	...	...	...	9
Applications withdrawn	...	...	...	1

In view of the publicity given to these new housing provisions, it was surprising that the number of applications was so low.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Certificates of disrepair:

Applications received	...	...	...	11
Applications approved and Certificates granted	...	...	...	11
Certificates revoked	...	...	...	2

Overcrowding:

Number of visits	...	...	...	...	195
New cases found	...	...	...	...	75
Cases abated	...	...	...	...	53
Cases still to be abated	...	...	...	...	105

In 1946, there were 204 cases of overcrowding and since that time a further 906 cases were reported, making a total of 1,110 of which 1,005 were abated during this ten years period, thus leaving 105 cases unabated at the end of the year.

Inspections and Re-inspections in connection with:—

Applications for Council Houses	...	...	...	1733
Applications for Grants under Housing Act, 1949	...	...	...	49
Applications for loans under Housing Act, 1949	...	...	...	28
Conditions in Corporation Houses	...	...	...	167
Housing conditions—Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	781
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	3
Houses let-in-Lodgings	...	...	...	40
Housing conditions—Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	2338

Permitted number of occupants in dwelling houses ...	17
Certificates of Disrepair	25
Property Enquiries:—Information was supplied regarding notices, etc., in respect of 1,095 premises.	

Works carried out, etc.

Dampness remedied	133
Domestic washing facilities provided	1
Food stores provided	1
Lighting and ventilation improved	23
Paving repaired	27
Roofs, gutters, etc. repaired	185
Sanitary accommodation provided or improved	32
Sinks provided or renewed	22
Miscellaneous repairs	324

SECTION II.

SANITATION.

Complaints.

Complaints investigated (excluding those in respect of food, rodent control and public conveniences) totalled 482.

Controlled Tipping.

A total of 127 visits were made to the controlled tipping sites at Victoria Brickworks and Rush Hill. No evidence of infestation by rodents or other pests were observed thus indicating satisfactory methods of tipping.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Three new applications were received for permission to station and use caravans on various sites and four applications for renewal were received. All were granted. The caravan site at Quarry Farm, Claverton Down continued to be used to capacity and was maintained in a satisfactory condition. An application by the owner for permission to extend the site in order to accommodate a further eight caravans was granted thus increasing the total number of caravans permitted from 44 to 52.

Smoke Abatement.

There was a considerable increase in the number of smoke nuisances from industrial premises. In particular considerable trouble was experienced from a steam laundry and an engineering works (foundry section). Both cases were eventually referred to the Regional

Officer of the National Fuel Efficiency Service who subsequently inspected the plants and submitted reports to the firm in question advising the steps which should be taken to overcome the trouble. Complaints were also received in respect of excessive emission of smoke and grit from the gas works and a conference was subsequently held at which representatives of the S.W. Gas Board and the Health Committee discussed the whole position, particularly in respect of the continued use of certain horizontal retorts.

Flooding.

Only a relatively small number of houses were affected by flooding and supplies of disinfectant were made available for the householders concerned.

No. of Inspections and Re-inspections in connection with :—

Accumulations	92
Cesspools	16
Controlled tipping	127
Dirty premises	—
Drain testing (Smoke 94, chemical 91, colour 88) ...	273
Drainage	861
Fairgrounds	8
Flooding	41
Insect Pest control	148
Keeping of animals and poultry	79
Nuisances	126
Offensive trades	4
Provision of dustbins	69
Provision of sanitary accommodation	65
Public conveniences	242
Rag flock and other filling materials	18
River and Canal Inspections	35
Rodent control (excluding visits by Rodent operators)	310
Schools, Public Buildings, Cinemas, etc.	16
Smoke nuisances (Industrial 109, Domestic 17) ...	126
Swimming Baths	38
Tents, Vans, Sheds	122
Water supplies	41
	2857

Works completed, nuisances abated, etc. :—

Accumulations removed	49
Animals—nuisances from keeping, abated	1
Cesspools abolished and filled in	8
Cesspools emptied	14
Cesspools discontinued	8
Defective sewers repaired	20
Drains (repaired 72, reconstructed 34, unstopped 117)	223
Drainage work (other)	67
Dustbins provided	24
Houses connected to Main Sewer	8
Smoke (Industrial 2, Domestic 6)	8
Water pollution abated	5
	435

SECTION III.**FOOD.****(A) INSPECTION AND REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES**

The increased attention given to the inspection of food premises in recent years was fully maintained, no less than 4,902 inspections and re-inspections being made, viz. :—

Bacteriological sampling of Milk	150
Bacteriological sampling of Ice-cream	42
Bakehouses	72
Butchers Shops	127
Cafés, kitchens and canteens	154
Dairies, including Pasteurising Plant (9)	76
Examination of Foodstuffs	742
Fishmongers and Poulterers	35
Food and Drugs, sampling	173
Food poisoning investigations	69
Food preparing premises	140
Food vehicles	9
Fried Fish Shops	23
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	100
Grocery and Provisions	224
Ice-cream Manufacturers	56

Ice-cream Vendors	...	...	...	...	184
Licensed premises	...	...	...	...	12
Meat Depots, Cattle Market and Provision Market	...				65
Merchandise Marks Act	..	...	...	...	57
Other Food premises	...	...	...	...	118
Slaughterhouses					
(Bacon factory 282, Private slaughterhouses 1754)					2036
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	238
					4902

Requests from food traders for examination of food suspected to be unfit for human consumption totalled 314. In addition 16 complaints were received from members of the public of which 8 were in respect of foreign bodies in food (milk 5, bread 3).

Food hygiene :

Despite increased pressure of work arising from meat inspection and applications for loans and grants under the Housing Acts, an all out effort was again made to secure hygienic conditions in food premises. When inspecting shops and factories where food was prepared or sold, the opportunity was taken to give practical advice "on the spot." In addition many talks were given and films shewn to meetings both during day time and evenings, attended by food handlers and the general public.

There was a marked improvement in measures adopted to protect foods. A number of refrigerators, glass cabinets, glass screens, etc., were installed, suitable sinks and washbasins were installed to which supplies of hot and cold water were laid on and nailbrushes, soap and towels were provided. Several food vehicles were inspected and all were found to be clean.

I had the honour and privilege of serving on the Standing Committee of the Royal Society of Health, on the Hygiene of Food and Food Equipment which is formulating codes of practice for the food trades. Requests for copies of my paper on "Chemical Agents and Poisonous Metals in Food and Water" were received from several overseas countries.

Contraventions dealt with :—

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	4
Constant hot water supply provided			...	...	42
Dirty food vehicles cleansed	...	...	...	...	—
Faulty handling or wrapping improved	...		...	...	6
Inadequate protection of foodstuffs improved			...	...	26
Personal hygiene improved	...	...	...	...	9
Provision of food receptacles	...	...	...	...	5

Provision of refuse receptacles	...	...	...	24
Repairs effected ...	...	...	...	30
Rooms or apparatus cleansed	...	...	...	34
Sanitary accommodation improved	...	...	...	11
Sinks provided ...	...	...	...	2
Soap and towels provided	...	...	...	25
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	17
Wash basins provided	...	...	...	24
				259

Registration of Food Premises (Food and Drugs Act).

	Newly Registered	Discon- tinued	Total now registered
Preparation or Manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or pre- served food ...	1	10	59
Manufacture and sale of ice-cream ...	—	1	5
Sale of Ice-cream ...	15	11	231
Storage of ice-cream intended for sale ...	—	—	1

Registration of Factories and Wholesale Premises (Food and Drugs Act).

Eight premises were registered for the business of wholesale dealing in margarine.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1953:

Observations were kept on various food shops to ascertain whether the provisions of the Act were complied with but no contravention was detected.

(B) FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING.

The number of samples submitted for analysis was 242 which represented approximately 3 per 1,000 of population. Six of the samples or approximately 2.48 per cent. were reported as not genuine.

A sample of imported apples were observed bearing a greyish white deposit which on analysis was found to contain arsenic to the extent of 4.5 parts per million and copper 5.6 p.p.m. Traders were advised as to treatment of such apples.

A sample of strawberry jam and a sample of blackcurrant jam were found to contain copper to the extent of 250 p.p.m. and 23 p.p.m. respectively. Investigations revealed that both jams had been made in a copper receptacle. Advice was given as to essential precautions in such cases.

A sample of T.T milk was found to be deficient in milk fat to the extent of 5 per cent. Six follow-up samples were taken in course of delivery one of which was deficient in fat to the extent of 5 per cent, the remaining samples being genuine. Eight appeal-to-cow samples were then taken all of which were reported as genuine. The facts were reported to the County Milk Advisory Officer.

Details of the various samples submitted for analysis are set out in the following table and it may be noted that no less than 86 different types of food and drugs were examined:—

<i>Article</i>	<i>Samples Examined</i>		<i>Samples Adulterated</i>	
	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>
Apple	1	—	1	—
Baking Powder	2	—	—	—
Beans	2	—	—	—
Beef Steak	1	—	—	—
Bovril	1	—	—	—
Brandy	—	1	—	—
Brandy Flavouring	—	1	—	—
Butter	1	—	—	—
Cake Mixture	5	—	—	—
Carrots	2	—	—	—
Cheese	13	—	—	—
Cherries Glacé	2	—	—	—
Cherries—tinned	2	—	—	—
Chemical Food	1	—	—	—
Chicken paste	1	—	—	—
Christmas pudding	2	—	—	—
Coffee and Chicory essence..	4	—	—	—
Colouring	1	—	—	—
Confectionery (sugar)	19	—	—	—
Cooking fat	2	—	—	—
Corn flour	1	—	—	—
Cream	4	—	—	—
Crystallised ginger	1	—	—	—
Currants	1	—	—	—
Custard powder	6	—	—	—
Curry Powder	3	—	—	—
Dates	1	—	—	—
Dessicated coconut	2	—	—	—
Dried peas	1	—	—	—
Duck paste	1	—	—	—
Fish paste	7	—	—	—
Gellatine	2	—	—	—
Gin	—	2	—	—
Ground Ginger	1	—	—	—
Ground nutmeg	1	—	—	—
Ground spice	1	—	—	—
Herrings	1	—	—	—
Honey	1	—	—	—

<i>Article</i>	<i>Samples Examined</i>		<i>Samples Adulterated</i>	
	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formul</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>
Icing	1	—	—	—
Jam	9	—	2	—
Jelly	5	—	—	—
Junket	1	—	—	—
Lentils	1	—	—	—
Margarine	4	—	—	—
Marmalade	1	—	—	—
Marmite	1	—	—	—
Mayonaise	1	—	—	—
Meat paste	5	—	—	—
Meat pies	2	—	—	—
Meat roll	2	—	—	—
Milk	—	36	—	3
Milk powder	1	—	—	—
Mincemeat	2	—	—	—
Mint	1	—	—	—
Mustard	2	—	—	—
Peaches	2	—	—	—
Peas	2	—	—	—
Pepper	2	—	—	—
Pickle	3	—	—	—
Pickling spice	2	—	—	—
Pilchards	1	—	—	—
Prunes (dried)	1	—	—	—
Puddings	1	—	—	—
Raisins	1	—	—	—
Rice	1	—	—	—
Rum	—	2	—	—
Salad Cream	1	—	—	—
Sardines	2	—	—	—
Sauce	4	—	—	—
Sausages (beef)	1	—	—	—
Sausages (pork)	6	—	—	—
Semolina	2	—	—	—
Shrimps	1	—	—	—
Soft drinks (cordials)	2	—	—	—
Soup	3	—	—	—
Sponge mixture	3	—	—	—
Sulphate tablets	1	—	—	—
Sultanas	2	—	—	—
Tapioca	1	—	—	—
Tea	5	—	—	—
Throat Pastilles	4	—	—	—
Tomatoes	1	—	—	—
Tomatoes (tinned)	1	—	—	—
Tomato paste	1	—	—	—

<i>Article</i>				<i>Samples Examined</i>		<i>Samples Adulterated</i>	
				<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>
Tomato puree	...	...	1	—	—	—	—
Whisky	...	...	—	—	6	—	—
				—	—	—	—
		Totals	195	47	3	3	—
			—	—	—	—	—

Information was received that certain baby teething powders in shops in various parts of the country contained calomel or mercury to an extent which might be dangerous. Visits were made to all shops in the City which it was considered might have such powders exposed for sale or deposited for the purpose of sale and as a result no less than 2,334 of the powders were surrendered.

Food Poisoning.

Investigations were carried out in respect of twelve official food poisoning notifications received (details in Report of Medical Officer of Health). A report was received from the Ministry of Health regarding Chinese Egg Albumen, samples of which had been reported as containing *Salmonella Typhimurium*. Enquiries were made at the various bakeries in the City and advice given, both orally and in writing, as to the precautions to be taken.

When investigating cases of food poisoning in which contamination of food by mice was suspected, traps were set and any mice caught were subsequently examined at the National Public Health Laboratory, Manor Hospital, but in no instance were intestinal pathogens isolated.

(C) INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following slaughterhouses continued to be used throughout the year :—

Spear Bros., & Clark Ltd., New Orchard Street.
 Bath Wholesale Meat Traders Association, Back Street
 S. R. Howe, Back Street.
 E. Hicks, Millbrook Place, Widcombe.
 G. Frayling, Weymouth Street, Walcot.

The number of animals killed at these slaughterhouses was as follows :—

Cattle excl'dg. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	TOTAL
2,253	1,225	1,612	5,693	24,800	35,583

The number of persons holding licenses to slaughter animals in the City totalled 26.

Times during which slaughtering took place varied and at one slaughterhouse in particular the extent to which the inspectors were required to be on duty late at night and on Saturdays and Sundays was again considerable.

It was the practice at this slaughterhouse to do little killing during the mornings but to commence late in the day and continue until 10.30 p.m. or even later. Quite apart from the inconvenience caused to the inspectors, both slaughtering and the subsequent examination of the carcasses and offals would be more satisfactory in daylight rather than by artificial means of lighting. It would also allow the meat to hang for a longer period prior to delivery to the retail shops. Unfortunately, legislation in respect of slaughtering does not prohibit night slaughtering, and any animals so slaughtered may be removed at 7 o'clock the following morning irrespective of whether or not they have been inspected. The practice is not confined to Bath and many local authorities have expressed concern at the present position, which in many instances is a very serious matter in view of the shortage of sanitary inspectors who are also qualified inspectors of meat and foods, but apparently the appropriate Government Departments have not deemed it necessary to amend the legislation, possibly, having in mind the future national policy with regard to slaughtering.

Extensive alterations to the bacon factory commenced in 1952 were continued during 1955.

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle exclgd. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Plgs at		TOTAL
					Bacon Factory	Others	
Number killed (if known)	2253	1225	1612	5693	19212	5588	35583
Number inspected ...	2253	1225	1612	5693	19212	5588	35583
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci							
Whole carcases condemned	1	3	5	13	29	7	58
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1016	624	6	1249	1433	1204	5532
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	45.14	51.18	.682	22.16	7.61	21.67	15.709
Tuberculosis only							
Whole carcases condemned	3	11	1	—	13	1	29
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	162	205	—	—	921	128	1416
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	7.32	17.63	.062	—	4.86	2.30	4.06
Cysticercosis							
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Visits to examine meat ... **1,754**

Weight of meat rejected as unfit for human consumption —

21 Tons 8 Cwts. 3 Qrs. 15½ Lbs.

BACON FACTORY

Visits to examine meat ... **282**

Weight of meat rejected as unfit for human consumption:—

18 Tons 19 Cwts. 0 Qrs. 11 Lbs.

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES, MEAT DEPOTS AND SHOPS.

Conditions rendering Carcase Meat and Organs
unfit for human consumption—1955.

DISEASE.	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Abscesses	893	669	2	24	266½
Actinobacillosis	162	49	—	—	—
Actinomycosis	52	—	—	—	—
Angioma	264	892	—	—	—
Bone Taint	9	—	—	—	—
Bruising	260	29	—	42	79½
Carcinoma	—	52	—	—	—
Cirrhosis	692½	638	—	60	148
Cloudy swelling	—	16	—	—	—
Congestion	—	—	3	12½	45
CYST. BOVIS	178	—	—	—	—
Cysts	26	41½	—	80	7½
Decomposition	—	—	—	1914	3
Distomatosis	5628½	4481	—	380½	52½
Emaciation					
(pathological)	—	1598	—	40	132
Fatty infiltration	—	14	—	—	3
Fever	—	—	108½	—	—
Gangrene	—	28	—	46	—
Hydronephrosis	—	2	—	—	½
Immaturity	—	—	39	—	—
Inflammation	66	70	2½	10½	314½
Jaundice	—	—	—	200	—
Mastitis					
(Acute Septic)	—	30	—	—	90
Melanosis	23	—	—	—	—
Metritis					
(Acute Septic)	—	—	—	220	—
Milk Spots (Liver)	32	32	1	7	335½
Multiceps	—	—	—	5	—
Nephritis	—	21	2	3	1
Odour (abnormal)	600	14	—	—	—
Oedema (Dropsy)	—	600	—	254	—
Parasitic	143	64	—	1045½	797½
Pentastomum	18	7	—	—	—
Pericarditis	10	4	—	3	173¼
Peritonitis					
(Acute Septic)	—	—	—	—	230
Pleurisy	12½	—	—	59	49
Pneumonia	8	10	71	81½	479½
Pyæmia	—	—	—	—	95
Septicæmia	—	—	80	65	—
Strongyli	—	—	—	118½	1
Tumour	—	—	—	—	2
TUBERCULOSIS	8758	11519	76	—	958
	20889½	17826½	385	4671	4263¾

Total = 48,035¾lbs., or 21tons 8cwt. 3qrs. 15¾lbs.

BACON FACTORY

	Baconers	Porkers	Boars	Sows	Total
Number of pigs killed ...	15,459	974	47	2,732	19,212

Conditions rendering Carcase Meat and Organs unfit for human consumption :—

DISEASE.	Pigs lbs.
Abscesses ...	1096 (1)
Arthritis ...	10
Bone taint ...	54
Bruising ...	1435 (1)
Cirrhosis ...	115
Congestion ...	39
Decomposed ...	298 (1)
Degeneration ...	6
Emaciation ...	50 (1)
Fever ...	530 (3)
Gangrene ...	368 (1)
Hydronephrosis ...	260
Inflammation ...	4411
Mastitis ...	122
Metritis ...	927 (2)
Metaplasia ...	4
Milk Spots ...	550
Moribund ...	1798 (6)
Necrosis ...	31
Nephritis ...	125
Oedema (Dropsy) ...	69 (1)
Parasites ...	186
Pericarditis ...	306
Peritonitis (Acute diffuse septic) ...	892 (5)
Pleurisy ...	262 (1)
Pneumonia ...	93 (1)
Pyæmia ...	1454 (4)
Septicaemia ...	354 (1)
Swine Erysipelas ...	6
Tumours ...	28
Tuberculosis ...	24652 (13)
Urticaria ...	20
	42459 (42)

Total = 18tons 19cwts. 11lbs.

The figures in brackets indicate the number of cases where it was found necessary to condemn the whole of the carcase and its organs.

Atrophic Rhinitis :

The practice, since August, 1954, of examining approximately 10 per cent. of the pigs slaughtered at the Bacon Factory to ascertain if evidence of atrophic rhinitis was present was again continued with the following results:—

	Baconers	Porkers	Boars	Sows	Total
(a) Number of pigs killed at Bacon Factory ...	15459	974	47	2732	19212
(b) Number of heads examined (including 851 condemned on account of T.B. and other diseases) ...	2479	27	4	338	2848
(c) Heads included under (b) which had been condemned for other reasons ...	482	27	4	338	851
					or 14.82%

The Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was kept informed by means of Quarterly Reports.

LOCAL BACON FACTORY—1938-55

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942 Jan. to July	Slaughtering discontinued from July 1942 until October, 1949											TOTAL Over broken period of 10½ years
No. of Pigs killed and examined ...	13,472	15,978	22,748	14,794	5,889	1949 Oct. to Dec.	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955					
All diseases except tuberculosis. Whole carcasses ...	75	147	92	17	24	3,093	15,995	17,973	20,506	20,759	22,134	19,212		192,552			
Parts or Organs condemned ...	1,020	2,259	1,250	486	113	0	29	15	28	35	24	29		515			
Percentage of the Num- ber inspected affected with disease other than T.B. ...	8·6%	15·0%	5·9%	3·4%	2·3%	42	299	745	813	1,205	1,875	1,433		11,540			
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcass condemned ...	62	106	63	34	26	1·35%	2·0%	4·2%	4·1%	5·97%	8·58%	7·61%		6·26%			
Parts or Organs condemned ...	1,639	2,186	2,401	1,413	467	10	39	49	30	20	21	13		473			
Percentage of the Num- ber inspected affected with T.B. ...	12·6%	14·3%	10·8%	9·7%	8·37%	152	909	1,128	905	853	853	921		13,827			
NOTES OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, ETC.					Only half year as slaughtering was discontin- ued.	5·2%	5·9%	6·55%	4·56%	4·25%	3·95%	4·86%		7·42%			
						Only Three months as slaughtering did not com- mence until October.	Eleven pigs were dead on arrival at the factory & 2 others were wholly condemned owing to multiple injuries.	113 pigs admitted to slaugh- terhouse after con- tact with cases of Swine- Fever.									

Foodstuffs Condemned in Tins, Packets, etc.

<i>Description</i>	<i>Tins or Pkts.</i>	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Tins or Pkts.</i>	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Anchovie ...	1	$3\frac{3}{4}$	Gherkins ...	158	$9\frac{3}{4}$
Asparagus Tips ...	3	$2\frac{1}{2}$	Golden Syrup ...	1	2
Baby Food ...	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	Honey ...	1	1
Baked Beans ...	122	108	Horseradish Sauce	3	1
Beetroot ...	5	4	Jam—		
Broad Beans ...	3	$3\frac{1}{2}$	Apricot ...	11	$17\frac{1}{2}$
Butter Beans ...	2	$5\frac{1}{2}$	Blackcurrant ...	10	15
Carrots ...	28	$46\frac{1}{2}$	Lemon Curd ...	1	1
Celery ...	7	$8\frac{1}{2}$	Peach ...	1	2
Celery Salad ...	14	$18\frac{1}{2}$	Jelly ...	1	$\frac{1}{4}$
Celery Salt ...	2	$\frac{1}{4}$	Macedoines... ..	2	$2\frac{1}{2}$
Cereals—			Margarine ...	107	$53\frac{1}{2}$
Macaroni ...	2	2	Marmalade ...	9	18
Rice ...	2	2	Meats—		
Shredded Wheat	36	34	Beef ...	2	$10\frac{1}{4}$
Sweet Corn ...	3	3	Beef Loaf ...	8	6
Cheese spread ...	2	$\frac{1}{2}$	Beef Roll ...	2	2
Coffee chickory ...	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	Brawn ...	3	$2\frac{1}{4}$
Cream ...	26	$8\frac{1}{4}$	Brisket of Beef ...	6	$28\frac{1}{2}$
Fish—			Calves Tongue ...	1	1
Brisling ...	4	1	Chicken ...	30	105
Bloater Paste ...	1	$\frac{1}{4}$	Corned Beef ...	129	$427\frac{1}{2}$
Cod Roll ...	6	$1\frac{1}{4}$	Corned Mutton ...	2	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Crab ...	11	$3\frac{3}{4}$	Ham ...	45	$376\frac{3}{4}$
Herrings ...	28	$30\frac{1}{2}$	Lamb Tongues	4	3
Mussels ...	17	$8\frac{1}{2}$	Luncheon Meat	204	$430\frac{3}{4}$
Pilchards ...	70	57	Lunch Tongue ...	8	$19\frac{3}{4}$
Prawns ...	1	8	Meat Pudding ...	1	$\frac{1}{2}$
Salmon ...	16	$9\frac{3}{4}$	Minced Beef Loaf	40	32
Sardines ...	12	$3\frac{1}{4}$	Ox Tongue ...	18	$91\frac{1}{4}$
Shrimps ...	1	$\frac{1}{4}$	Pork ...	3	$8\frac{1}{4}$
Silds ...	4	1	Pork Roll ...	1	4
Fruit—			Sheep's Tongues	18	$11\frac{1}{4}$
Apples ...	4	$9\frac{3}{4}$	Steak in gravy ...	5	5
Apple Jelly ...	17	$27\frac{1}{2}$	Stewed hearts ...	2	$1\frac{1}{4}$
Apricots ...	189	$367\frac{3}{4}$	Stewed Steak ...	60	$55\frac{1}{4}$
Blackberry ...	1	$\frac{3}{4}$	Tongue ...	5	30
Blackcurrants ...	17	$18\frac{3}{4}$	Veal (Jellied) ...	16	$71\frac{1}{2}$
Blackcurrant Juice	2	18	Milk—		
Cherries ...	71	86	Condensed ...	34	$35\frac{1}{2}$
Damsons... ..	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	Evaporated ...	182	$187\frac{3}{4}$
Fruit Salad ...	200	$126\frac{1}{2}$	Powdered ...	3	63
Gooseberries ...	4	$4\frac{1}{2}$	Mixed Vegetables ...	4	5
Grapes ...	9	9	Morefat ...	1	$\frac{3}{4}$
Grapefruit ...	58	$61\frac{3}{4}$	Nescafe ...	19	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Grapefruit Juice	18	$23\frac{1}{4}$	Onions (pickled) ...	4	5
Loganberries ...	4	4	Peas ...	363	$339\frac{3}{4}$
Olives ...	55	$20\frac{1}{2}$	Peanut Butter ...	11	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Oranges ...	93	71	Pickles ...	4	$1\frac{3}{4}$
Orange Juice ...	41	$43\frac{1}{4}$	Ravioli ...	1	$\frac{1}{2}$
Peaches ...	239	$762\frac{3}{4}$	Sandwich Spread	1	
Pears ...	73	106	Sausages (pork) ...	1	1
Pineapples ...	179	$287\frac{1}{4}$	Soup—		
Pineapple Juice	3	$2\frac{3}{4}$	Celery ...	2	2
Plums ...	52	65	Chicken ...	19	$17\frac{1}{2}$
Prunes ...	69	$33\frac{3}{4}$	Irish-stew ...	1	1
Quince ...	1	2	Kidney ...	1	$\frac{3}{4}$
Raspberries ...	19	21	Meat ...	4	$4\frac{1}{4}$
Rhubarb ...	9	9	Mixed ...	15	15
Strawberries ...	14	$19\frac{3}{4}$	Mulligatawny ...	1	$\frac{3}{4}$
Two Fruit ...	3	3	Mushroom ...	48	$45\frac{1}{4}$

<i>Description</i>	<i>Tins or Pkts.</i>	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Onion	16	15½
Oxtail	10	8½
Pea	3	4½
Scotch-broth	21	7
Tomato	23	17½
Turtle	1	1
Vegetable	5	3½
Spaghetti	23	17½
Spam	1	¾
Spice	13	1½

<i>Description</i>	<i>Tins or Pkts.</i>	<i>Wt in Lbs.</i>
Spinach	2	2½
Sponge mixture	4	28
Tomatoes	576	738½
Tomato juice	6	5½
Tomato puree	11	37
Vegetable salad	4	4½
Walnuts (pickled)	1	2½

Total weight: 6,058½ lbs.
2 Tons, 14 Cwts, 10½ Lbs.

Other Foods Condemned

	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Bacon	131½
Bath Chap	1½
Brawn	6
Cake	5½
Cheese	76½
Chocolate	3½
Cinnamon	7
Eggs (hard boiled)	20
Fish cakes	31½
Ham	56¾
Ham and egg pie	5½
Horseradish sauce	40
Meat pie	1
Oats (rolled)	10
Pork	4
Pork pies	9½
Potatoes (new)	1,288
Prunes	55
Sausages (Beef)	118
Sausages (Luncheon)	7½
Sausages (Pork)	78½
Steak Pies	2½
Sugar	2
Sultanas	2

Total weight : 1,962½ lbs.
17 Cwts. 2 Qrs. 2½ Lbs.

Fish Condemned

	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Cockles	62½
Fillets	43½
Haddock	14
Herrings	196
Mackerel	28
Megrines	42

Total Weight : 385½ lbs.
3 Cwts. 1 Qr. 21½ Lbs.

Poultry Condemned

	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Fowls	25½

Meat Condemned at Retailers' Premises

	<i>Wt. in Lbs.</i>
Beef... ...	1,149½
Liver	300
Pork	88

Total Weight : 1,537½ lbs.
13 Cwts. 2 Qrs. 25½ Lbs.

Total Weights of Food Condemned.

	Tons	cwts	qrs	lbs
Meat at Bacon factory ...	18	19	0	11
Meat at private slaughterhouses	21	8	3	15 $\frac{3}{4}$
Meat at retail premises ...		13	2	25 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fish ...		3	1	21 $\frac{3}{4}$
Poultry ...				25 $\frac{1}{4}$
Foods in tins, packets, etc. ...	2	14	0	13
Other foods ...		17	2	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Total ...	44	17	0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$

Disposal of Condemned Food.

	Tons	cwts	qrs	lbs
Destruction ...	3	15	1	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Processing into inedible by-products ...	41	1	2	24 $\frac{1}{4}$
Total ...	44	17	0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$

(D). (MILK AND DAIRIES).**Registration.**

Number of registered dairies ...	...	...	9
„ „ distributors ...	...	...	61

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949.

One hundred and fifteen licences were granted :—

	Dealers	Supplementary
Tuberculin Tested ...	29	7
Pasteurised ...	30	8
Sterilised ...	32	3
Pasteuriser's Licence	— 1	

Bacteriological Examination of Designated Milk.

Designation	Samples obtained	Failed Meth. Blue Test	Failed Phosphatase Test	Failed Turbidity Test
Tuberculin Tested ...	134	6	*	*
Pasteurised ...	32	0	0	*
T.T. Pasteurised ...	33†	0	0	*
Total ...	199	6	0	0

*Test not applicable.

†Includes 18 samples of Channel Island Milk.

The number of "consumer" samples of raw "tuberculin tested" milk obtained was 134 of which only 6 or 4.7 per cent. failed to pass the Methylene blue test.

Of the 65 samples of heat treated milk none failed the Methylene blue test or the phosphatase test.

Bottle rinses were obtained on 8 occasions and all proved satisfactory.

(E). ICE CREAM.

Fifty samples of ice-cream submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory Service were graded as follows:—

Provisional Grade 1 ... 27 or 54%	}	Satisfactory = 66%
Grade 2 ... 6 or 12%		
Grade 3 ... 8 or 16%		
Grade 4 ... 9 or 18%		Unsatisfactory = 34%

These results appear to compare unfavourably with those of the previous year when 55 samples were taken and none classified below Grade 2 but in actual fact the majority of the unsatisfactory samples in 1955 were in connection with a series of tests carried out on a particular ice-cream plant.

(F). WATER SAMPLING.

Of the 264 samples of water submitted for examination 66 were reported as unsatisfactory, but the majority of these were in connection with investigations carried out to trace sources of pollution in spring supplies.

The following table indicates the sources of supply from which samples were taken, and the number of samples unsatisfactory:—

Source of Supply	Number of samples examined	Number Unsatisfactory
Direct from City Mains	8	0
From tanks supplied by City Mains	1	0
Springs	115	34
Brook (Weston)	3	0
Swimming Baths	98	10
Miscellaneous	39	23
Total	264	67

Watercress.

Visits were made to eight sites where watercress beds had been known to exist in recent years. The growing of watercress had been discontinued at four and one had been abolished. Watercress was still being grown for sale at one bed but it was chlorinated as a routine precaution. At another, only the persons residing at the house on the site used the watercress, which they said they thoroughly washed; and at the remaining site the watercress was not sold but the public had unauthorised access thereto.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE— MANOR HOSPITAL

The number of samples submitted to the above Laboratory totalled 612 and again I have pleasure in recording my sincere thanks to Dr. P. Mann (Director), for his excellent co-operation and ready advice during the year.

Bacteriological examination :—

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	199
Milk bottle rinses	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ice-cream	...	...	...	...	...	50
Water	...	...	...	...	...	264— 521

Food Poisoning :—

Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	16
Urine	...	...	...	...	...	2
Vomit	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dead mice	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bath Chaps	...	...	...	...	...	5
Crab (tinned)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Eggs	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tinned tomatoes	...	...	...	...	...	1— 33

Dysentery :—

Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	38
Roller towels	...	...	...	...	...	3— 41

Tinned foods suspected as being unfit for human consumption :—

Milk powder	...	...	...	...	2
Cream (bottled)	...	...	...	...	2

Portions of flesh and organs from food animals suspected to be diseased or affected by parasites transmissible to man

11— 15

T.T. Milk (tainted and discoloured) ... 2— 2

Total ... 612

SECTION IV.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Visits of enquiry in connection with infectious and other diseases numbered 220, and disinfection was carried out at 102 premises, viz.:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	30
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	31
Poliomyelitis (confirmed and suspected cases)	...	...	...	...	14
Cancer	...	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	12
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	5
					102

Disinfection of two premises outside the area was carried out at the request of Bathavon Rural District Council.

Disinfection of bedding, etc., was carried out on 333 occasions by steam and on 122 occasions by Formalin. The following is a list of the articles disinfected:—

			Formalin	Steam
Mattresses	...	...	21	42
Blankets	...	...	24	74
Sheets	...	...	25	—
Pillows	...	...	27	38
Clothing	...	...	16	166
Other articles	...	...	9	13
			122	333

Twenty persons were cleansed at the Manor Hospital Cleansing Centre.

Disinfection of 32 premises was carried out due to the dirty condition of the rooms.

SECTION V.

FACTORIES, SHOPS, OFFICES, ETC.

Factories Act, 1937 (Part 1).

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:—

	Number on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices
Factories without Mechanical Power	233	30	3
Factories with Mechanical Power ...	491	155	7
Others ...	18	20	0
		742	205 10

		Defects		Referred	
		Found	Remedied	To H.M. Insp	By H.M. Insp
Want of Cleanliness	...	15	12	—	1
Overcrowding	...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature	..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	...	7	2	—	5
Inadequate drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient	...	2	3	—	2
(b) Unsuitable	...	13	8	—	4
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences	...	—	—	—	—
Total		37	25	—	12

Outworkers.

Seventeen outworkers were notified. The premises in which the work was carried on were inspected and found to be satisfactory.

Shops Act, 1950.

Inspections and re-inspections	...	...	...	421
Forms and notices provided	...	...	...	4
Facilities for taking meals provided	...	...	...	—
Hours of Closing --contraventions	...	...	...	15
Hours of employment adjusted	...	...	...	—
Means of heating provided	...	...	...	2
Premises cleansed	...	...	...	3
Sanitary accommodation improved or provided	...	...	...	4
Seats provided	...	...	...	—
Sunday trading contraventions	...	...	...	—
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	1
Washing facilities improved or provided	...	...	...	5

Offices.

Ten offices were inspected but in no case was any statutory action necessary.

Bakehouses.

There were 26 bakehouses in use, (including one basement bakehouse) to which a total of 72 visits were made.

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Three premises are registered as required by the Act, to which a total of 18 visits were made.

Eleven samples were submitted for analysis and one (white cotton felt) was found to contain an excess amount of trash. The attention of the firm in question was drawn to this contravention.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

The registrations in respect of three premises were renewed after inspection and two new licences were issued. Eleven visits were made to the premises but no contraventions were observed.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953.

The Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952 prohibits the sale or letting of unguarded electric fires, gas fires or oil heaters. In 1953 the above Regulations were issued, setting out the standards of construction and fitting for guards, and the tests to be employed in ascertaining whether guards comply with the required standards. Observations were kept on premises where such appliances were on sale, including second-hand shops and at 32 premises which were inspected 25 unsatisfactory appliances were found :—

Electric fires—without guards	...	...	0
with unsatisfactory guards	...	...	13 (4)
Gas fires — without guard	...	...	5 (3)
with unsatisfactory guards	...	...	7 (7)
Oil heaters—	No contraventions		

The figures in brackets indicate appliances found in second-hand shops.

SECTION VI.

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL.

The following is a detailed report of the work carried out during the year, excluding the maintenance treatment of sewers (see next page).

	Corpora- tion Buildings	Business Premises	Dwell- ing Houses	Others	Total
Complaints received :					
Rats	8	44	117	6	235
Mice	15	63	159	2	239
Rats and Mice ...	1	14	15	0	30
Total	24	121	351	8	504
Premises found to be infested :					
On notification by Occupier :					
Rats	7	38	143	6	194
Mice	15	62	158	2	237
Rats and Mice ...	1	14	15	0	30
Total	23	114	316	8	461
On inspection :					
Rats	11	33	88	25	157
Mice	11	49	288	3	351
Rats and Mice ...	0	22	7	1	30
Total	22	104	383	29	538
Properties treated by Corpora- tion :					
	45	204	657	37	943
Properties treated by Occupier :					
	Nil	14	42	Nil	56
First inspections :					
	114	683	3,461	126	4,384
Re-inspections, visits for treat- ment, etc.					
	246	1,175	1,953	247	3,621
Total visits ...	360	1,858	5,414	373	8,005
"Block" control schemes carried out					
					47

Baits laid :

Prebait:	...	...	...	...	18
Poison baits: Warfarin ...	...	...	...	...	8,033
Arsenious Oxide ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
*Zinc Phosphide ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Red Squill ...	...	...	...	...	2
"Cymag" gas ...	...	...	...	...	Nil

*Zinc Phosphide was used, however, in sewer treatments.

Traps set	...	...	...	...	...	30
Bodies recovered: (Rats 192, Mice 163)	...	...	...	...	...	355
Drain tests carried out	...	...	...	...	...	39
Defective sewers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	20

Maintenance treatment of sewers.

For the eleventh successive year maintenance treatment of sewers was carried out, and the results were as follows:—

			March.	October.
Poison used	...	...	Arsenic	Zincphosphide
Manholes treated	...	...	340	213
Pre-bait takes—				
Clear	...	...	137	106
Partial	...	...	9	14
			—	—
Total takes	...	...	146	120
No takes	...	...	194	93
Unreadable	...	...	0	0

Other pests.

The number of infestations of pests other than rodents dealt with totalled 300 as enumerated hereunder:—

Ants	...	...	...	...	11
Bees	...	...	...	...	2
Beetles	...	...	...	...	22
Bugs	...	...	...	...	32
Cockroaches	...	...	...	...	97
Crickets	...	...	...	...	6
Fleas	...	...	...	...	44
Flies	...	...	...	...	25
Flour Mite	...	...	...	...	1
Hornets	...	...	...	...	1
Lice	...	...	...	...	24
Moths	...	...	...	...	1
Silver Fish	...	...	...	...	2
Steam Flies	...	...	...	...	4
Wasps	...	...	...	...	26
Woodworm	...	...	...	...	2
					—
					300
					—

SECTION VII.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Odd Down.

A new convenience on the Odd Down Playing Fields was opened in October, 1955.

Walcot Street.

Proposals for extending the Cattle Market in Walcot Street, were still under consideration at the end of the year and the construction of a new convenience in the vicinity is envisaged in the final scheme.

Water consumption.

Total quantity used—1955 = 2,876,000 gals.

1954 = 3,947,000 gals.

Damage, etc.

Doors, locks, pans, seats, etc., stolen or damaged	...	...	...	258
Water pipes damaged or burst	...	...	...	102
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	192
Drains choked	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	86
				648

Baths, Washes and Cloakrooms—(Terrace Walk and Old Bridge Conveniences).

				Men		Women	
				1955	1954	1955	1954
Baths	...	...	...	4047	4321	3056	3876
Washes	...	...	...	11069	12404	9211	9636
Use of Cloakrooms	...	...	...	2356	3012	1792	2440

It will be noted that there was a decrease in the use of these facilities, probably due to the fact that more and more houses lacking in such amenities are going out of use year by year.

NOTICES SERVED

Section I—Housing—

	Total
Housing Act, 1936, Section 9 (Repairs) ...	1
„ 11 (Demolition) ...	4
„ 12 (Closure) ...	8
„ 59 (Overcrowding) ...	—
„ 66 (Statement of persons sleeping in a house) ...	—
„ 168 (Ownership, etc.) ...	18
„ 62 (Rent Books) ...	3
Houses—let-in-Lodgings Byelaws ...	—

Section II—Sanitation—

	Informal.	Formal
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 93, Nuisances, etc. ...	307	37
Public Health Act, 1936. Section 39 ...	—	11
„ „ „ „ 75 ...	—	1
„ „ „ „ 79 ...	—	—
„ „ „ „ 138 ...	—	—
„ „ „ „ 45 ...	—	1

Section III—Food—

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 ...	63	—
Food Byelaws Notices ...	20	—
Ice-cream Regulations ...	—	—
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 ...	3	—
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924-1952 ...	—	—
Merchandise Marks Act ...	34	—

Section IV—Infectious disease— ...**Section V—Factories, Shops and Offices—**

Factories Act, 1937 ...	24	—
Shops Acts, 1950 ...	19	—
Pet Animals Act, 1951 ...	—	—

Section VI—Rodent and Pest Control—

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 ...	15	—
---	----	---

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING 1955

83

Cases Notified	At all Ages		Under 1		1-2		3-4		5-9		10-14		15-24		25-34		35-44		45-64		65 and over	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Scarlet Fever ...	21	24	...	...	1	1	4	7	15	13	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	17	22	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	2	1	2	...	2	3	7	8	1	7	...	...
Erysipelas ...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	3	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	9	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	78	94	2	2	10	6	11	13	42	33	7	1	14	1	10	2	6	1	2	1	1	1
Food Poisoning ...	5	7	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	705	679	18	16	143	140	193	181	337	330	13	6	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	102	123	15	5	13	19	35	32	32	50	4	10	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	35	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	6	5	7	6	10	5	7	...	...
Other Tuberculosis ...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL NOTIFIED	970	992	38	24	170	169	244	235	428	428	26	25	8	27	12	32	12	24	22	20	10	8

NOTE—A Summary of Statistics relating to Number of Notifications, Number of Deaths, Incidence and

Death Rates of Infectious Diseases, will be found on page 10, an analysis of Deaths according to Age Periods on pages 85 and 86, and a further note in connection with the Notification of Tuberculosis on page 31.

BIRTHS, DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR, AND INFANT MORTALITY, 1955.

	Total			Legitimate			Illegitimate		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Births ...	535	533	1068	505	507	1012	30	26	56
Deaths (under one year) ...	11	11	22	11	11	22	—	—	—
* Infant Mortality	21	21	20.6	21	21	20.6	—	—	—

* i.e., Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases.			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	At Hosp.				
—	...	--	—	...	...	...

SUMMARY OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

Taken at 9 a.m. G.M.T., at Henrietta Park.

1955	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Mean ...	38.1	35.9	38.3	49.2	50.5	58.2	63.5	65.5	58.0	49.2	44.0	43.7	49.5
" 55 yrs Average	40.4	40.4	43.2	47.4	53.2	58.1	61.5	61.1	56.6	50.8	44.4	41.5	49.9
Highest ...	54.2	52.9	57.6	65.6	69.8	75.0	85.7	87.8	74.8	68.3	61.8	56.7	87.8
Date ...	10	7	25	20	31	16	17	23	8	10	4	28	Aug. 23
Lowest ...	15.1	20.4	21.3	27.9	34.8	37.0	46.2	43.9	38.0	22.1	24.5	26.0	15.1
Date ...	15	20	20	1	22	10	5	8	29	31	1	22	Jan. 15
Humidity...	89	87	68	72	67	74	69	65	76	78	90	88	76
Total in inches ...	3.07	1.74	1.15	1.07	4.49	3.50	.83	1.21	1.70	1.49	3.07	3.93	27.25
No. Wet Days ..	17	14	7	10	20	13	3	8	13	9	12	25	151
Mean of 90 yrs. ...	2.83	2.27	2.12	2.10	2.16	2.07	2.55	2.88	2.58	3.17	3.03	3.11	30.87
" Wet Days ...	15	13	13	13	12	11	13	13	13	15	15	16	162
Sunshine, hours ...	31.7	79.9	179.6	183.6	230.2	168.5	278.2	218.6	159.4	124.6	56.2	22.3	1732.8
Do. Mean of 50 yrs.	50.3	72.3	117.1	158.8	194.1	235.0	196.5	182.9	144.4	101.7	61.2	44.3	1528.6

CITY OF BATH

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1955

[illegible]

CAUSES	Persons	M	F	1-1		2-5		5-10		10-15		15-20		20-25		25-35		35-45		45-55		55-60		60-65		65-75		75-80		80-85		85-90		
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
23 Pneumonia ...	48	26	22	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	2	9	5	6	3	2	3	7	..		
24 Bronchitis ...	41	25	16	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	1	2	2	5	5	5	5	4	3	1	3	..		
25 Other Respiratory Diseases	6	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	
26 Ulcer Stomach & Duodenum	8	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	
27 Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	6	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis...	7	3	4	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	..	..
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	8	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	2	2	2	2	2	..	..
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital Malformations	8	5	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32 Other Diseases	73	24	49	2	7	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	...	3	4	3	9	...	6	5	3	7	3	13	..	
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34 All other accidents	29	10	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	1	1	3	...	3	1	2	1	2	1	8	..
35 Suicide	9	6	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	
36 Homicide, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	998	414	584	11	11	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	9	5	35	32	27	27	44	34	97	134	85	100	57	100	41	135	..	
Inward Transfers	36	16	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4	1	1	2	4	2	2	4	1	4	2	3	1	2	..	
Outward Transfers	409	199	210	14	14	2	1	1	2	2	...	5	2	4	3	4	4	10	28	19	15	18	26	20	54	40	23	30	12	17	7	22	..	
Public Inst. (Residents) ...	451	215	236	10	9	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	2	1	1	4	3	19	22	16	7	26	20	52	60	44	44	26	31	12	35	..	

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

B. A. ASTLEY WESTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1955

CITY OF BATH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chairman: Alderman Major G. D. Lock, M.B.E., M.C.

His Worship the Mayor (Mr. Councillor A. N. Dix)

Aldermen :—E. E. Clements, L. N. Punter

Councillors :—S. D. Chappell, C. E. S. Dodd, R. F. Emmerson, Mrs. A. M. Fitzjohn, W. H. Gallop, M. L. Giles, K. J. Gray, E. G. Haskins, Miss A. M. Hicks, Mrs. G. Maw, E. Paul, Mrs. M. E. Poynton, R. H. Purdie, A. L. Ricketts, W. H. Rossiter, Mrs. E. M. Williams.

Co-opted Members :

Dr. A. H. Ashcroft, The Ven. E. A. Cook, Mrs. A. B. Curtis, Mr. R. O. H. Dann, The Very Rev. Canon P. V. Hackett, Mr. A. G. C. King, Miss E. R. Nunn, The Rev. J. M. Richardson, Mr. A. B. Sackett, Mr. S. L. Taylor.

Special Services Sub-Committee :

Chairman: Mr. Councillor S. D. Chappell

Councillors :—E. G. Haskins, Mrs. M. E. Poynton, Mr. R. O. H. Dann, R. F. Emmerson, E. Paul, A. G. C. King.

Advisory—Non-Members of the Education Committee :

Mrs. E. E. Clements, Mrs. J. Wesley Whimster, Miss W. M. King.

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE, 1955

MEDICAL

Principal School Medical Officer and Medical Officer of Health :

*B. A. Astley Weston, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Principal School Medical Officer and Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

*N. Newman, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers :

*Irene M. Leach, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

*Helen M. H. Mack, M.B., Ch.B.

SPECIAL DEPARTMENTS

Child Guidance :

A. Guirdham, M.A., D.M., B.Ch., D.P.M.

K. Reeves, M.D. (Vienna)

Miss M. Phillips, Psychiatric Social Worker (part-time)

Speech :

Miss G. A. Jansson, L.C.S.T.

Dental :

G. G. Davis, L.D.S. (Principal School Dental Officer)

Miss F. L. Franks, L.D.S. (School Dental Officer)

Miss E. R. Shinkwin, B.D.S. (School Dental Officer)

School Nurses :

Mrs. D. Hales, S.R.N.

Mrs. E. M. Milsom, S.R.N.

Miss M. J. Rafferty, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Dental Attendants :

Miss B. Bowler ; Miss E. Edmonds ; Mrs. I. K. Allen.

Clerical Staff :

Mr. D. C. Clark

Miss L. Huggins (Senior Assistant Clerk)

Mrs. G. V. Nuttall

Mrs. M. J. Tanner

Miss M. B. Wilmington

*Whole-time Medical Officers of the City Council, but part-time only for the Education Committee.

BATH LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY

PRINCIPAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1955

SCHOOL POPULATION, December, 1955	...	11,556
Secondary Grammar	... ..	1,138
Secondary Technical	... ..	517
Secondary Modern and Art	... ..	2,756
St. John's R.C. (un-reorganised)	... ..	367
Primary Junior	... ..	2,949
Primary Infants	... ..	1,893
Primary Junior and Infants	... ..	1,819
Day Special	... ..	117
TOTAL		11,556

LIST OF SCHOOLS IN BATH

DECEMBER, 1955

	Number on Roll				Canteen	Medical
	Infants		Junior		C—Central	Room
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	O—Own	—M
G—Group						
Primary (Infants only)						
Christ Church (Miss K. D. Williams)	56	27	—	—	C	—
East Twerton (Miss E. L. W. Hunt)	93	68	—	—	G	—
Fosseway (Miss M. Skidmore) ...	86	108	—	—	O	M
Lyncombe (Miss P. M. Hine) ...	67	58	—	—	C	—
Moorlands (Miss E. Wilkinson) ...	95	95	—	—	O	M
Oldfield ...	40	34	—	—	G	—
Parkside (Miss V. E. Blandford) ...	114	101	—	—	O	M
Southdown (Mrs. G. E. Jackson)	128	144	—	—	O	—
St. Saviour's (Miss W. M. Carey)	48	61	—	—	O	—
Walcot (Miss G. M. Godley) ...	49	57	—	—	C	—
Wansdyke (Miss D. E. Dunster)...	34	33	—	—	O	M
Weston C. of E. (Miss H. Hinde) ...	59	50	—	—	C	—
Weston St. John's Infs. (Miss M. E. Sparks)	87	101	—	—	G	—
Primary (Junior Only)						
Fosseway (Mr. E. G. Jerrome, B.Sc. Econ.)	—	—	194	223	O	M
Harley St. Girls (Miss G. M. Meek)	—	—	212	—	C	—
Moorlands (Mr. S. L. Taylor) ...	—	—	144	175	O	M
Newbridge (Miss D. Alderwick) ...	—	—	176	200	O	M
St. Marks (Mr. R. A. S. Fenton)...	—	—	117	146	C	—
St. Saviours (Mr. H. Allen) ...	—	—	99	185	O	—
South Twerton (Mr. R. J. Marks)	—	—	226	324	O	M
Southdown (Mr. W. G. Western, B.Sc.)	—	—	181	181	O	M
Weston C. of E. (Mr. D. A. Pike) ...	—	—	88	75	C	—

	Number on Roll				Canteen	Medical
	Infants		Junior		C—Central	Room
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	O—Oven	—M
G—Group						
Primary (Infants and Juniors)						
Bathwick (Mr. F. W. Weeks) ...	34	28	68	84	O & C	—
St. Luke's (Mr. H. W. G. Smart)	76	64	136	140	O	M
St. Mary's (Miss K. L. Davis) ...	33	44	43	49	C	—
St. Stephen's (Mr. R. R. Broackes)	46	50	39	71	C	M
Twerton C. of E. (Miss M. E. Slade)	81	101	156	148	O	M
Widcombe (Mr. F. J. Baxter) ...	56	62	93	117	G	—
Unreorganised						
St. John's R.C. (Mr. J. H. Gilchrist, B.A.)	39	36	79	82	G	M
SENIOR						
	Girls		Boys			
Unreorganised						
St. John's R.C. (continued)			66	65	G	M
Secondary Modern						
Oldfield Boys' (Mr. F. Castle)			—	430	O	—
Oldfield Girls' (Miss F. M. Blanchard) ...			550	—	O	—
Walcot (Mr. A. Thomas)			264	230	C	M
West Twerton Boys' (Mr. R. O. Dann)... ..			—	615	O	M
West Twerton Girls' (Miss M. A. Wray, B.A.)			535	—	O	M
Secondary Grammar						
City of Bath Boys' (Mr. L. Scott, M.A.)			—	552	O	M
City of Bath Girls' (Miss W. M. Cook, B.Sc.)			586	—	O	M
Other Secondary						
Art Secondary (Mr. T. R. Hall, B.A.)			65	67	G	—
Technical Secondary (Mr. T. J. Nicholas, M.A., B.Sc.)			—	517	C	—
Day Special School for Educationally Sub-Normal Children						
JUNIOR & SENIOR						
	Girls		Boys			
" Penn Hill " (Mrs. J. Hughes)			35	82	O	M

MEDICAL INSPECTION

During 1955 the following examinations were made in schools :

(a) **Routine—**

Entrants	1,318
Second age group	804
Third age group	948
Total	3,070
Other periodic inspections	391
Grand Total	3,461

The total number of routine examinations represents 2.9% of children on school registers, and shows an increase on previous years due to the additional visits to schools by the School Medical Officers.

The number of children seen at routine medical inspections continues to increase, mainly due to the fact that the School Medical Officers are now visiting the majority of schools each term. There are, however, a small number of schools who prefer yearly visits because of difficulties of accommodation, and at the Head Teachers' request arrangements are made to visit accordingly.

Grammar and Technical School pupils are given an additional medical examination in their second year which enables the School Medical Officer to observe any effects of the more intensive school curriculum on the child's health. So far, the evidence points to the pupils taking this extra work in their stride.

As usual, in accordance with the National Health Service regulations the private doctor is always informed of any case requiring treatment and has the option of either treating the child himself or placing the case in the care of the School Medical Officer for reference to one of the specialised clinics.

(b) **Other Inspections**

Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	599
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	727
Total								1,326

Thus a total of 4,787 examinations were made in schools, Doctors' Clinics held on school premises and at the School Health Department.

Among the Special Inspections are included examinations for certain purposes, as follows :

Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	20
Certification of Fitness for part-time Employment	...	...	...	...	...	180
Home Office " Boarding Out " exams.	...	...	...	...	...	61
Prior to Orthopaedic In-patient treatment	...	...	...	...	...	—
Certification as " Handicapped " Pupils	...	...	...	...	...	76
Prior to admission or return to Residential Schools	...	...	...	...	...	23

As requested in Ministry of Education Administrative Memorandum No. 342 of 31.10.49, the following are the addresses of the principal school clinics. Particulars relating to the clinic sessions held are to be found on page 38 of the main report.

Blue Coat House, Sawclose, Bath.
 Moorlands Infants' School, Moorfields Road, Bath.
 Fosseway Infants' School, Frome Road, Bath.
 St. Luke's, Frome Road, Bath.
 City of Bath Boys' School, Beechen Cliff, Bath.
 Southdown Junior, Mount Road, Bath.

FINDINGS AND TREATMENT **RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE** **YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955**

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS No. of defects		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS No. of defects	
		Re-quiring treat-ment	Requiring to be kept under ob-servation, but not requiring treatment	Re-quiring treat-ment	Requiring to be kept under ob-servation, but not requiring treatment
4	Skin	8	7	23	6
5	Eyes (a) Vision	79	28	25	2
	(b) Squint	10	6	—	1
	(c) Other... ..	4	1	7	2
6	Ears (a) Hearing	—	11	3	1
	(b) Otitis Media	1	3	1	—
	(c) Other... ..	5	10	6	2
7	Nose or Throat	16	64	13	7
8	Speech	10	15	9	3
9	Cervical Glands	—	8	—	—
10	Heart and Circulation	—	16	—	6
11	Lungs	2	27	3	10
12	Developmental—				
	(a) Hernia... ..	1	10	—	—
	(b) Other	2	17	1	1
13	Orthopaedic—				
	(a) Posture	21	59	15	4
	(b) Flat Foot	9	11	—	—
	(c) Other	36	57	19	12
14	Nervous system—				
	(a) Epilepsy	—	1	—	—
	(b) Other	—	15	5	2
15	Psychological—				
	(a) Development	4	6	3	2
	(b) Stability	1	14	8	7
16	Other	11	106	26	29

NUTRITION

Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected during the Year **In the Age Groups**

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1) Entrants	(2) 1,318	(3) 738	(4) 55.9	(5) 570	(6) 43.2	(7) 10	(8) 0.7
Second Age Group	804	411	51.1	386	48.0	7	0.8
Third Age Group	948	473	49.8	468	49.3	7	0.7
Other Periodic Inspections	391	199	50.8	189	48.3	3	0.7
Total	3,461	1,821	52.6	1,613	46.6	27	0.7

The above figures still continue to cause confusion because of the individual standards set by different Medical Officers. This factor has been accepted nationally and as a result the classification is being altered by the Ministry of Education on a more standardised basis for the coming year.

Cleanliness

The School Nurses have continued to carry out regular cleanliness inspections and during 1955 made 355 visits to schools carrying out 26,570 examinations. 63 children were found to be verminous at these inspections but 40 cases had been cleared up by the end of the year. Cleansing material is always supplied, but if the parents are unable to use it satisfactorily the School Nurses do the necessary cleansing. During 1955 no Cleansing Notices under Section 54 of the Education Act, 1944 were issued nor was it necessary to send Cleansing Orders. 164 visits were made to homes in respect of cleanliness.

The percentage of children found verminous continues to drop and during the year only 0.2% were found unclean compared with 0.5% during 1954.

MINOR AILMENT CLINICS

There are now 5 minor ailment clinics functioning in Bath schools in addition to the central clinic at Blue Coat House.

This would appear to be a reduction of minor ailment clinics from 1954, but in fact is not so, as the Fosseway Infants', Junior and Wansdyke Infants' Schools are all held centrally at Fosseway Infants' medical room.

At these clinics children are seen at the request of parents or teachers and others associated with the School Health Service. The total number of children seen amounted to 1,716. There has been a considerable increase in the number of skin conditions which have received treatment throughout the year, 588 compared with 350 in 1954, this being accounted for by the fact that the School Nurses in particular are now dealing with a larger number of children with warts.

Minor Ailments are also treated by the School Nurses during their routine visits to schools which normally take place each week. The number treated during 1955 amounted to 4,222 of whom 3,812 children required further follow-up treatment. The school doctors visit Moorlands Infants' and Junior, Fosseway Infants' and Junior, Wansdyke Infants', Southdown Infants' and Junior and St. Luke's schools once a month and the City of Bath Boys' School twice a month in addition to the usual visits of the School Nurses. Children from other schools attend Blue Coat House where a doctor's clinic is held weekly.

The following table is a record of the minor ailments treated by the Authority during the year.

Minor Ailments				<i>Number of cases treated or under treatment dur- ing the year</i>
(A)				
Skin—Ringworm—Scalp	...	...	...	—
Ringworm—Body	...	...	...	1
Scabies	...	...	...	1
Impetigo	...	...	...	44
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	542
Eye Disease	...	...	...	66
(External and other, but excluding errors of refraction, squint and cases admitted to hospital)				
Ear, Nose and Throat defects	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	1,061
(e.g., Minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains)				
Total				1,716
(B)				
Total number of attendances at Authority's minor ailment clinics. Doctors' Clinics				896
Nurses' Clinics				1,221

VISUAL DEFECTS

During 1955, 1,001 children (217 new cases) with refractive error and squint were called to the Eye Infirmary for treatment and of this number 511 were prescribed spectacles. All spectacles prescribed had been supplied by the end of the year.

In addition to errors of refraction and squint 144 other defects or diseases of the eye were found and treated either at the Minor Ailment Clinic, or referred to the Eye Infirmary.

Total number of Eye Clinics held—120. Total attendances—1,616.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

Total number of Clinics—21 Total attendances—298.

Nose and Throat Defects

During the year 100 defects of the nose and throat were ascertained, and 69 were operated on for the removal of unhealthy tonsils and adenoids, and 26 for other conditions. This was only one half of the number for the previous year, notwithstanding the fact that there was no necessity to postpone tonsil and adenoid operations because of poliomyelitis.

Ear Defects

A total of 43 children were referred for treatment and observation of defective hearing, otitis media or other defects at medical inspections. One defect was dealt with at the Minor Ailment Clinic, and 18 were

referred for treatment to the specialist clinics. Four children received operations for ear defects. Special reference is made to deafness under the section dealing with handicapped pupils.

ULTRA-VIOLET RAY TREATMENT

The arrangements whereby children receive Ultra-Violet Ray Treatment continues with the close co-operation of the Spa Committee and 3 children were referred to this clinic by School Medical Officers or General Practitioners.

SCHOOL NURSES AND FOLLOW-UP

Three full-time School Nurses and nine Health Visitors giving part of their time to School Health work, are engaged in attending at School Medical Inspection, at the Minor Ailment Clinics, in cleanliness inspections and in following up cases in the homes. A total of 1,494 visits to schools and 1,514 follow-up visits to schoolchildren's homes in connection with cleanliness and other matters were made.

Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

The Orthopaedic Clinic is a Regional Hospital Board responsibility, but we continue to work closely together. A Surgeon's Clinic is held on average twice monthly at Blue Coat House, at which a surgeon from the Orthopaedic Hospital attends with an After-Care Sister. An After-Care Clinic is held twice weekly, at which the After-Care Sister is able to carry out treatment ordered and supervise appliances. The clerical work of the Orthopaedic Clinics is done by the staff of the School Health Department, and much valuable and indispensable voluntary help is given in the clinics by members of the British Red Cross Society.

During 1955 the following work was done :

Surgeon's Sessions...	...	...	...	25
After-Care Sessions (4 per week)	...	...	...	154
No. of new cases (excluding infants)	...	...	...	124
No. of old cases (continuing)	...	...	...	280
Total attendances	...	...	...	1,160
Attendances at Massage Clinic (Orthopaedic Hospital)	...	...	...	446
Cases treated by Physiotherapist	...	...	...	31
Admitted to the Orthopaedic Hospital :				
Poliomyelitis (rehabilitation)	...	...	Acute	1
			Chronic	3
Suspected Tuberculosis	...	...	...	2
Cerebral Palsy	...	...	...	2
Congenital deformities	...	...	...	2
Others	...	...	...	9
Fractures and Injuries, except burns	...	...	...	11
Spinal Conditions Exclusive Cong.Defs. and T.B.	...	...	...	5
Hip Conditions	...	...	...	9
Foot Deformities (excluding Talipes)	...	...	...	7
Osteomyelitis	...	...	...	6
Total				57

The Orthopaedic Hospital with its extension at Southstoke is recognised as a Hospital School by the Ministry of Education. All children admitted can thus continue their education within the limits of their physical ability. As many children with orthopaedic defects require to stay in hospital for many months, and even years, this continued education is of the greatest value. During the year 34 Bath children received education during their stay in orthopaedic and other hospitals.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

Two half day sessions per week continue to be held under the direction of Dr. A. Guirdham, assisted by Dr. K. Reeves. Miss Phillips, Psychiatric Social Worker, attends clinics in addition to home visits.

Play therapy has been commenced by the existing staff but is not used as widely as is desired and necessary because of the lack of specialised staff. The absence of an Educational Psychologist continues to hamper this service and limit its scope.

As usual the minor problems are dealt with by the School Medical Officers at routine inspection and school clinic sessions. In many cases special interviews are granted to parents because of the time factor at routine sessions. This proved time absorbing for the School Medical Officer but I consider it a very necessary service which should be maintained in the absence of a more fully organised Child Guidance Centre.

In 1955 there were 81 sessions held at the Child Guidance Clinic at which 25 new cases and 73 continuing cases made 317 attendances. This shows a marked increase on previous years.

Report from Miss M. Phillips, Psychiatric Social Worker

During the year 1955, the P.S.W. attended one Clinic session each week when mothers were seen whilst their children were attending for treatment. During these visits an attempt is made to help parents understand the child's problem and the way in which they can help in its solution. The aim of treatment is to establish a better relationship between child and parent, and the P.S.W.'s function is to help the parents achieve this. It very often has to be made clear to the parents from the outset that the Clinic is not a place where the personality of the child can be radically altered.

In addition to those seen at the clinic, 18 cases were referred for visits to the home for further discussion with the parents. Visits have also been paid to schools and Head Teachers have been most co-operative in connection with the attendance of children at the clinic ; often extremely disturbing to the class. This part of the work is really the province of the Educational Psychologist, and until one is appointed little can be done to help the teachers cope with the difficult problem of the maladjusted child. Such an appointment would also ensure the earlier referral of disturbed children to the Child Guidance Clinic.

Sixteen cases were referred to the P.S.W. by School Medical Officers and Health Visitors for help before the problem reached the point where referral to a Clinic appeared necessary. Five of these were helped as a result of short term treatment, i.e. after one or two interviews the parent was able to sort out the problem. Two were referred to Clinics (Child Guidance and Speech Therapy) and 9 were visited over a longer period.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

The examination of children who may be considered to be handicapped pupils, forms a major part of the School Medical Officer's work. Each case is given careful consideration in the light of reports from Teachers, Nurses and Welfare Officers. Information from the family doctor, hospitals and other persons who have knowledge of the case are studied. In each case the parent is interviewed, and the home circumstances are considered before a recommendation is made to the Special Services Committee. All the School Medical Officers have been approved by the Ministry of Education for the examination and certification of handicapped pupils, and an additional safeguard is made on the recommendation of the School Medical Officer, in that each case is checked by the Principal School Medical Officer or his Deputy. The principle on which both doctors and nurses make their recommendation is that certification of this nature is a major factor in the child's life, and cannot be made without very careful consideration of all the facts and circumstances.

Specific efforts are made to ensure that parents are fully aware of the degree of handicap and of the facilities provided for the child under the Education Act.

Many children who are examined by the School Medical Officer at the Head Teachers' request because of poor progress, are found to be of average intelligence but none the less unable to read after two or more years at school. The provisions for such children are severely lacking. Their intelligence level is above that warranting classification as Educationally Subnormal and admission to the Special School. It is considered that special educational treatment at the ordinary school together with the services of an educational psychologist is the only solution to this problem.

(A) The following Handicapped Pupils have been placed in Special Day or Residential Schools during the year by Bath Local Education Authority :

Deaf	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Partially Sighted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Delicate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Educationally Sub-normal				...	...	...	...	16
						Total	...	20

(B) Among new Handicapped Pupils ascertained the following were recommended for education in special schools :

Partially Deaf	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Physically Handicapped			...	...	...	...	2
Educationally Sub-normal			...	...	...	...	20
Maladjusted	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
					Total	...	25

(C) The following table shows the overall numbers and disposition of Handicapped Pupils as on 31st December, 1955.

<i>Category</i>	<i>In Spec. Schools</i>		<i>Indep'ndent Schools (under L.E.A. arrangements)</i>	<i>In Hospital.</i>	<i>Having Home Tuition</i>	<i>At Home</i>	<i>Attending Ordinary Schools</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>Day</i>	<i>Resid.</i>						
Blind	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Partially Sighted	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	5
Deaf	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	8
Partially Deaf	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Delicate	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
Physically Handicapped	—	2	3	1	7	1	15	29
Educationally Sub-normal	107	4	—	—	1	—	46	158
Maladjusted	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	7
Epileptic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total	108	18	4	1	8	1	76	216

The year has shown an overall decrease in the number of Handicapped Pupils—216 children being classified out of a total school population of 11,556. The increase in cases of home tuition is due in the main to this amenity being provided for these Physically handicapped children having lengthy periodic absences from school.

The expense borne by the Local Education Authority during the financial year ending 31st March, 1955, was £4,148 of which £644 was paid for education in hospitals. £340 was expended on the provision of home tuition.

Blind and Partially Sighted

There is still only one Blind child who attends the Royal School of Industry for the Blind, Bristol. Of the five Partially Sighted children, three are at Exhall Grange, Warwick, one at the Royal West of England School, Exeter, and one attends the ordinary school,

Deaf and Partially Hearing

Of the eight Bath children classified as Deaf, five attend the Royal West of England School for the Deaf, Exeter, one at a school for the Deaf and Dumb, Margate, and one in St. John's R.C. School for the Deaf, Boston Spa. One boy who was at Hamilton Lodge School, Brighton is now maintained at Seaford College, Sussex, an ordinary independent school. The three Partially Deaf children are attending the ordinary school whilst waiting places at the special school.

Delicate

Four Delicate children had special educational treatment provided during the year but by the end of the year were attending ordinary schools although still under observation.

Physically Handicapped Children

Two children are in Residential Special Schools, one at The Victoria Home, Bournemouth, the other at Warlies Hospital Home, Waltham, Essex. Three children are in independent schools where special educational treatment is provided and one child remains at home, being incapable through his disability of deriving benefit as yet from education.

Seven children in this group are being provided with Home Tuition, of whom three are awaiting placement in residential special schools.

One child continues at the Pro Juventute Sanatorium, Davos in Switzerland, where he has been since November, 1954.

Educationally Sub-Normal

There are 107 Educationally Sub-Normal Bath school children attending the Day Special School, three are at St. Francis Residential School, Birmingham, and one at Withycombe House, Exmouth. One boy continues with Home Tuition because of additional physical disability. Forty-six Educationally Sub-Normal pupils attend the ordinary schools, in most cases because the parents refuse consent for admission to special schools. This admission is not enforced in Bath in accordance with Ministry of Education advice. A very small number of these receive a degree of individual attention but this provision by no means comes up to requirements.

Maladjusted

Of the seven children classified as Maladjusted one attends "Penn" School being also educationally sub-normal. One at the ordinary school is awaiting admission to a residential establishment.

Epileptic

One Epileptic child is able to continue at the ordinary school.

Speech Defect

Again, no child was ascertained as handicapped because of gross speech defect,

SPEECH THERAPY CLINIC

The Speech Therapist, has kindly supplied the following observations :

					<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Attendances	721						
Sessions	164						
No. of children	...	...	...	...	69	18	87
Discharged	16						
Ceased to attend	3						
Defects							
Stammer	...	...	...	...	21	6	27
Defective articulation :							
(a) Cleft Palate Speech	...	...	...	...	2	0	2
(b) Nasality	...	...	...	...	2	0	2
(c) Lisp	...	...	...	...	16	6	22
(d) Various defects	...	...	...	...	28	6	34
					69	18	87

REFERRED FOR FURTHER ADVICE

A boy stammerer with a marked jaw malformation was referred to the Dental Clinic where he was recommended for orthodontic treatment. Another boy whose speech indicated some anatomical abnormality was seen by a plastic surgeon who did not advise any surgical treatment, but thought that as the boy was working well to improve his speech, he would in time overcome his disability.

Two children were referred for examination as to their suitability for going to the school for the educationally sub-normal. They were later admitted and ceased attendance at the Speech Clinic where they had made progress. Normally children at the E.S.N. School do not attend the Speech Clinic. It is felt that unless their speech is seriously defective and they are likely to benefit from attendance, good normal speech training in their familiar environment is more suitable for them. Each case needs to be considered individually. One boy stammerer did attend for some months. There was some, if not marked, improvement in his speech.

During the first half of the autumn term one of the weekly sessions was held at a school, because there were several children who for one reason or another were unable to attend the clinic.

Not infrequently cases arise where there is an assumption that, what appears to be only a slight stammer, does not require treatment. This misapprehension is apt to occur in the junior schools where the selection test takes a prominent place and the missing of lessons is felt to be a disadvantage. Efforts are made to emphasise that these non-spectacular, but often constant, stammers are often persistent, may get worse and be a serious disadvantage later on.

Care is always taken to arrange treatment periods as conveniently as possible.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable infectious illness has remained at a low level during the year, and in no case has it been necessary to close schools.

Scarlet Fever

Forty-three cases were notified in children of all ages. They were mostly of a mild type, and almost all were nursed at home.

Diphtheria

For the second successive year there were no cases of this disease.

Arrangements for immunisation against Diphtheria as given in previous Reports continued throughout the year, with the greatest co-operation from the Head Teachers. During 1955, 117 children between 5-15 years received immunising doses of either A.P.T. or T.A.F. as necessary, and 850 under 5 years. In addition, 747 children received reinforcing injections. It is estimated that of the child population under 15, 71.6% have been immunised, but of this percentage just over 44% received protection by initial or reinforcing doses within the past five years.

It is reasonably certain that the practice of systematic immunisation of children under 15 years of age is responsible for the effective control of this disease, and to be sure that an epidemic will not occur again, at least 75% of the child population under 15 should be protected. Although the present level of 71.6% is below the safety mark it shows a slight improvement on the previous year and maintains the increase over the past few years.

Tuberculosis—Mass Radiography

Arrangements were made with the Mass Radiography Unit to carry out surveys on two occasions at the various secondary schools and Training Colleges during 1955. A total of 2,779 children and staff were X-rayed of whom 4 were found to have inactive tuberculosis and a further 10 had conditions which were not tuberculous.

The teaching and catering staff of the Local Authority's Schools are encouraged to attend for X-ray when the Unit is in Bath. All new appointments are examined by X-ray to exclude tuberculosis and are required to sign a declaration submitting to annual examination.

B.C.G. vaccination is offered to school children who are contacts of known cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. This work is carried out under the direction of the Chest Physician. It is hoped to extend B.C.G. vaccination to school leavers in the near future.

Measles and Whooping Cough

There was a sharp increase in the number of cases of measles notified, 1,384 as against 23 for 1954. Of this number 686 occurred in children of school age. This followed the national trend.

The number of cases of whooping cough notified rose somewhat from 146 in 1954 to 225 in 1955. Ninety-six of these cases involved children of school age.

Apart, however, from immediate complications a large number of children who contract these diseases are rendered delicate for many years of their childhood as a result of an attack during infancy. Protection against whooping cough by means of the new Suspended Vaccine and the combined Diphtheria-Whooping Cough Vaccine is now being offered. It is anticipated that this will alleviate these complications and subsequent general ill-health.

Dysentery

As indicated in my Report as Medical Officer of Health, the number of cases of dysentery rose to a record number of 172 in 1955. This increase was in common with a general rise throughout the Country. 89% of the cases were school children and the outbreaks occurred mainly in the Upper Weston area involving the Primary Junior and Infant Schools there. Neither school was closed but the efforts to check the spread of infection involved the School Nurses in many visits to the homes, and there was also a considerable loss of school time in a number of cases where the infection persisted.

Every effort is made through home visits, by letter and instruction through the schools to impress the need for personal cleanliness in checking the spread of this disease. Unfortunately the infection occurred in another area of the City towards the end of the year, and continued into 1956.

Acute Poliomyelitis

There was no major outbreak of this disease. During 1955, 4 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified, none of them school children. There were no deaths.

SCHOOL MILK AND MEALS

The following information has been kindly supplied by the School Meals Organiser.

T.T. pasteurised milk is available to all school children and is also available to handicapped children receiving home tuition. A total of 8,748 one-third pints were supplied daily on average during 1955.

School meals are provided in every school and the School Meals Organization is responsible for ensuring a varied and nourishing menu. The number of meals served during the year was 1,268,997 of which 85,258 were supplied to non-maintained schools.

SCHOOL WELFARE

The Chief School Welfare Officer has submitted the following details :—

Employment of Children

The number of children registered for employment during the year was as follows :—

Delivery of newspapers	...	146
Other employment	... ..	66

		212

Of the above number 9 were girls, six of whom assisted at a local laundry during the summer holidays and 3 were employed by local shopkeepers. A constant check is being kept by the School Welfare Department to ensure that the employment byelaws are observed.

Part time employment of grammar school pupils is setting a problem because of the excessively long hours, when, for example, a boy does a morning and evening newspaper delivery in addition to the full school curriculum. I have deemed it advisable in many cases, in consultation with the Head Teacher, to limit the period of employment.

Special Transport

Only one boy, a physically handicapped pupil, is being provided with special transport.

Absentees

Despite the severe winter with heavy snow falls and the various epidemics throughout the year, the percentage attendance was 90.6 which compares favourably with previous years.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector reports as follows :—

Widcombe (C. of E.) Junior and Infants' School

A memorandum was sent to the Director of Education expressing concern at the continued use of trough closets and asking whether arrangements could be made for their abolition and reinstatement of a modern suite of conveniences.

Reply received 26th May, 1955, stating—"It is the intention of the Education Committee to maintain this school for many years and an endeavour would be made to replace the trough closets by more modern type conveniences."

Bathwick Infants' School

In June, 1955, the Surveyor to the Education Committee (Mr. W. N. Bence), stated that the Managers of the above School had received authority from the Ministry of Education to proceed with the works of adaptation to the Ground Floor rooms to allow for their use for school purposes. This work is now in hand.

REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER, 1955

During the year we have continued with a strength of three whole time dental officers. Unfortunately, Miss Shinkwin resigned at the end of the year, and all efforts to replace her have proved unavailing. The general dental practitioners have been contacted in an effort to get sessional work done but this has proved unsuccessful.

During the year we were paid an official visit by Dr. Wynne, the Chief Dental Officer for the Ministry of Education, and we are much indebted to him for his very helpful suggestions.

The general state of the children's teeth remains poor, many permanent molars being unsavable almost on eruption, and the oral hygiene varies greatly from school to school.

Dental Inspections

The number of inspections carried out at the schools has risen from 4,715 to 6,063, but we still did not manage to get round all schools during the year.

Conservation

The number of fillings in permanent teeth rose from 2,195 to 3,645. The number of fillings in temporary teeth were much lower, this being the policy of conserving the permanent dentition to the exclusion of the temporary.

Extractions

The number of teeth extracted both temporary and permanent show a slight increase.

Orthodontics and Dentures

Orthodontics continue to occupy quite an important part of the Dental Officers' time. During the year a meeting was held at the Manor Hospital attended by the Medical Officer of Health and myself to explore the possibilities of an orthodontist, based at the Hospital, being appointed for consultation and treatment of the more difficult cases.

Hospital Facilities

The dental registrar has resigned and not been replaced. This, of course, makes prompt treatment of cases requiring hospitalisation quite a problem.

The following figures relate to Dental Inspection and Treatment for the year.

1.	Number of children inspected :					
	(a)	Periodic	...	...	...	6,063
	(b)	Specials	...	...	...	1,619
				Total (1)	...	7,682
2.	Number found to require treatment					6,442
3.	Number referred for treatment					4,688
4.	Number actually treated					2,929
5.	Attendances made for treatment					10,270
6.	Half days devoted to :					
	(a)	Inspection	...	...	...	44
	(b)	Treatment	...	...	...	1,224
				Total	...	1,268
7.	Fillings :					
	Permanent Teeth					3,645
	Temporary Teeth					219
				Total	...	3,864

8. Extractions :						
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	742
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	2,087
						<u>2,829</u>
Administration of general anaesthetics	...	...	...	...	...	1,674
Orthodontic appliances fitted :						
(a) Removable	...	...	...	...	...	151
(b) Fixed	...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of dentures fitted	...	...	...	...	...	48
Number of X-rays taken	...	...	...	...	...	130
Other operations	...	...	...	...	...	3,900